



A new type of ride

Snowbikes spark winter fun **MONTANA UNTAMED, C1**



MORNING SNOW SHOWERS 39 • 23 FORECAST, **A8**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2019

mtstandard.com

MSU grads help shoppers

Give tips for healthy decisions, **LOCAL, A2**

EPA: Health risk not seen

Agency says Butte's results align with those from elsewhere

DAVID MCCUMBER
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In blunt terms, the Environmental Protection Agency on Wednesday dismissed the significance of a recent study of metals

content in the meconium of Butte infants, saying the results of the study, termed "shocking" by the researchers, simply show metals levels consistent with existing scientific literature.

"If you look at the ranges (of metals) found in the literature — all the metals, copper, zinc, manganese — the conclusion is obvious," Charles Partridge, EPA Region 8 toxicologist, said

Wednesday. "We have this body of literature. One study is all the way against everything that's been published that we've been able to find. Everything's pointing one way and this study's pointing the other."

For example, the study, by scientists Suzanne McDermott and Jamie Lead of the University of South Carolina and Katie Hailer, an associate professor of chem-

istry at Montana Technological University, shows a median amount of copper in the samples as 26.3 parts per million with a range of 11.06 to 47.27. A 2019 study in eastern Canada found a median of 67.8 and a range of 15-250. For manganese, the Butte study found a median of 5.364 and a range of 3.88 to 18.120. The Canadian study found a median of 14.31 and a range of 1-100. For

zinc, the Butte study found a median of 81.642 and a range of 22.120 to 312.695. The Canadian study found a median of 313.8 and a range of 20-1500.

The metals levels published in the McDermott-Lead-Hailer study for a control group in South Carolina seem extraordinarily low, Partridge said — in many cases

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MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

THE BUTTE COMMUNITY BAND PERFORMS HOLIDAY CONCERT

Valerie Williams, left, and Ellis Risser prepare to perform in The Butte Community Band's Holiday Concert along with two dozen members of the all-volunteer band on Wednesday evening at the Butte Plaza Mall.

Ethics talks stall retreat

Lawmakers may attend event valued at \$1K committee says

HOLLY K. MICHELS
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HELENA — A leadership skills workshop for lawmakers was delayed earlier this year out of a lack of clarity about the ethics of legislators attending profes-

sional development activities sponsored by outside groups.

The question arose after Leadership Montana contacted the Commissioner of Political Practices about an event it planned for this past October. The group reached out a couple weeks before the event, seeking clarification about laws concerning gifts to elected officials. It asked whether it was OK for a legislator to attend an educational oppor-

tunity offered free of cost.

Montana's ethics code for legislators, elected officials, and state employees bars accepting a gift worth more than \$50, though there's an exception made for educational activities that don't come with any strings attached.

According to emails between Leadership Montana and the commissioner, the event originally proposed had a value of \$1,000 for each legislator, which

included meals, lodging at West Creek Ranch in Emigrant, materials, and facilitation.

Leadership Montana had previously discussed the event back in the spring with the Legislature's Legal Services Office. Director and code commissioner Todd Everts said Tuesday he told the group it was not his role to give them advice, but that they

Please see **ETHICS**, Page **A3**

Senate confirms VanDyke as judge

MSU grad appointed despite robust snubs

MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate has confirmed a top Justice Department lawyer as a federal appeals court judge despite a "not qualified" rating from the American Bar Association and sharp opposition from his home-state senators.

Lawrence VanDyke, a deputy assistant attorney general and former high-ranking Nevada legal official, won a seat Wednesday on the San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which covers a wide swath of Western states from Alaska to Arizona. The vote was 51-44.

Among those opposing VanDyke were Nevada Democratic Sens. Jacky Rosen and Catherine Cortez Masto, who said that despite serving four years as Nevada's solicitor general, VanDyke's qualifications are inadequate and his ties to Nevada "minimal."

VanDyke, 47, served as solicitor general in Montana and assistant solicitor general in Texas before moving to Nevada in 2015.

VanDyke's confirmation comes a day after the Senate confirmed California prosecutor Patrick Butatay to a separate seat on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, despite opposition by the state's two senators. Butatay was confirmed Tuesday, 53-40.

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MIKE SMITH, THE MONTANA STANDARD

Dane Gibson leaves Butte District Court, followed by a detention officer, after an hour-long hearing Wednesday about his mental state. Gibson is accused of hijacking a bus and taking a hostage in Butte on Jan. 30.

Judge rules medication needed

Hijacking suspect may be forced to take antipsychotics

MIKE SMITH
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A judge has ordered that a man accused of hijacking a bus and holding a man hostage outside the Butte Civic Center in January be medicated with antipsychotic drugs, forcibly if necessary, to see if he can ultimately assist in his own defense.

District Judge Kurt Krueger made the ruling Wednesday after an hour-long hearing about the mental state of 53-year-old Dane Anthony Gibson, who has been

in custody for mental evaluation at the Montana State Hospital in Warm Springs since April.

A forensic psychologist testified that Gibson is in great physical shape and has not posed any threats to himself or staff, but he "continues to harbor a number of delusions" about what happened in Butte on Jan. 30.

Gibson has said he was being chased by members of the MS-13 gang when the hijacking occurred and believes the hostage was a member of the gang. The incident resulted in an hours-long standoff with police in Butte but ended with nobody hurt.

Gibson faces felony charges of aggravated kidnapping and assault with a weapon stemming

from the incident. The kidnapping charge is punishable by up to life in prison, while the maximum sentence for assault with a weapon is 20 years.

He has tried to drop his public defender, Ed Sheehy, but Krueger said in April that nothing would be decided until Gibson underwent mental evaluation. At the beginning of Wednesday's hearing, Krueger denied Gibson's request and said Sheehy would continue to represent him.

Mike Clague, the chief prosecutor in the case, said kidnapping alone is punishable by up to life in prison so it was in the public interest that criminal proceedings

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CLOSING METALS PRICE (per pound)
Copper . . \$2.76 **Moly** . . . \$9.10
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LOCAL

WHAT'S HAPPENING

THURSDAY, DEC. 12

'BABES IN TOYLAND'
“Babes in Toyland” will run on the Orphan Girl Theatre stage at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults/students/seniors and \$10 for kids 10 and under. Tickets are available at www.orphangirl.org/tickets or by calling 406-782-5657. The OGCT is located at 316 W. Park St., with the patron entrance located on the Galena Street side of the building.

MEET WITH NERD HERD
Do you have tech questions? If so, join the Butte Public Library's Nerd Herd at 10 a.m., at the Big Sky Senior Living, 3701 Elizabeth Warren Ave.

CLUBS AND MEETINGS
Butte
Veterans of Foreign Wars will be meeting at 7 p.m. at the Marine Corps League Building, 525 Garden Ave.
Copper City RPG Club will hold their next Dungeons and Dragons game from 5 to 8 p.m., in basement of the Butte Public Library. All ages and abilities are welcome.
Line Dancing Class with Colleen Klobucar is from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Butte YMCA. Members get in free; non-members pay \$5.
Butte Threshold Singers meet at 9 a.m. at the Big Sky Senior Living chapel. The group prepares to sing at the bedside of terminal patients. All singers are welcome. Call Highlands Hospice office at 406-533-0020 or Sue Walsh at 406-593-1218. Alternative practice times are available.
Montana Independent Living Project hosts a group for women with disabilities from 2 p.m. to 3:30 at 3475 Monroe Ave., suite 103. Come for sharing, support, and a sense of community.
Rotary Club meets at noon at the Butte Country Club.
A suicide loss support group meets from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the Butte Public Library. Call before attending for the first time. Details: Beth at 406-490-1279 or Mary Alice at 406-533-9899.
The after-school Manga and Anime Club in the Teen Zone meets from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Butte Public Library's Teen Zone.
A memoir writing group meets 1:30 to 3:30 at Butte Public Library. For details, contact the library at 723-3361 or buttepubliclibrary.info.
Chapter X of PEO will have a Christmas luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at Big Sky Senior Living.
Play ACC Cribbage with the Big Butte Mile High Cribbers at East Side Athletic Club at 6:30 p.m. Details: Phil at 406-494-2618.

■ **Online:** For more event listings, visit our website at EventsInButte.com

AREA BIRTH

DEC. 9
IN ST. JAMES HEALTHCARE
Girl: Emma Jo Paul
Parents: Matthew and Bradie Paul, Butte. **Weight:** 7 lbs., 1 oz. **Length:** 20 in. **Grandparents:** Edward and Jo Ann Staack, Butte, Vicki Paul and the late George Paul, Butte. **Great-grandparents:** Marion Staack, Denver, Colorado.

LOTTERY NUMBERS

Big Sky Bonus 13-14-17-27 Bonus Number: 03 Jackpot: \$9,140	Montana Cash 09-15-28-36-39 Jackpot: \$355,802K
Lotto America 23-29-34-41-51 Star Ball: 08 All Star Bonus: X3 Jackpot: \$5M	Powerball 24-29-42-44-63 Powerball: 10 Power Play: X4 Jackpot: \$140M

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MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

GROCERY SHOPPING FOR SUCCESS

Julie Kim, one of two Montana State University graduate students with the Montana Dietetic Internship, answers questions as Diane Chuprinski participates in St. James Healthcare's Grocery Shopping for Success community event on Wednesday evening at Safeway grocery store in Butte. Half a dozen people joined Kim and MSU grad student Olivia Weins and Chloe Lundquist, a registered dietitian with St. James Healthcare, to learn how to navigate a grocery store and choose nutritionally sound food options. “I would love to do more of these public nutrition classes,” said Lundquist adding that anyone who is interested in learning more can contact her at 723-2489 at St. James Healthcare.

Montana man enters Alford plea in boyfriend’s stabbing

KALISPELL, Mont. — A northwestern Montana man entered an Alford plea Wednesday to a charge of negligent homicide in the August 2018 stabbing death of his boyfriend.
Ryan Cody Lamb, 35, of Whitefish, entered his plea for the death of Ryan Nixon, 31, the Daily Inter Lake reported.
Under an Alford plea, a defendant does not admit

guilt but acknowledges prosecutors have enough evidence to gain a conviction.
Nixon was stabbed with a pair of scissors during a sexual encounter at an apartment in Kalispell, prosecutors said.
A jury could not reach a verdict on a deliberate homicide charge in June.
Defense attorneys argued Lamb was acting in

self-defense after Nixon stabbed him with a fork.
Jurors voted 11-1 to acquit. District Judge Robert Allison had said he thought the evidence to convict on deliberate homicide was “thin at best,” the newspaper reported.
Prosecutors refiled the deliberate homicide charge in August and added a negligent homicide charge.

Flathead County Attorney Travis Ahner said his office is seeking a 10-year prison sentence.
Lamb’s attorney, Emily Lamson, is asking for a 10-year probationary sentence.
Lamb was jailed from August 2018 until July 2019 when his bail was reduced after his trial.
Allison scheduled sentencing on Feb. 12.

AREA SNAPSHOTS

Bulldogs plan speech tourney

Butte High is seeking judges for “Richest Hill on Earth AA Speech and Debate Tournament” Friday and Saturday, Jan. 17-18, at Butte High School.
If you would like to volunteer, a judges’ clinic will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 14, in the Butte High Auditorium.
For more details, go to

bhs.talkingbulldogs@gmail.com or call Roger McCullough, head coach, at 406-533-2173.

Georgia at 406-782-5772.

Dec. 16, at Perkins.

Toastmasters list winners

Top O’ the Mornin’ Toastmasters weekly winners included Billie Holmlund, best speaker; Lorri DePlazes, best topic respondent; and Tonette Hollingsworth, best evaluator.
The next meeting will be held at 6:30 a.m. Monday,

Mr. and Mrs. Claus at library

Santa and Mrs. Claus will be the guests at the Butte Public Library’s storytime at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 13, 226 W. Broadway St.
Come join us for stories, songs, finger-plays and crafts.
Details: Cathy at 406-723-3361.

Class of 1952 plans luncheon

Butte Central and Butte High class of 1952 will have a luncheon at noon Wednesday, Dec. 18, at Big Sky Senior Living, 3701 Elizabeth Warren Ave.
For reservations, call

TODAY IN HISTORY

TODAY
Thursday, Dec. 12, is the 346th day of 2019. There are 19 days left in the year.

TODAY’S HIGHLIGHT
On **Dec. 12, 2000**, George W. Bush became president-elect as a divided U.S. Supreme Court reversed a state court decision for recounts in Florida’s contested election.

ON THIS DATE
In 1787, Pennsylvania became the second state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.
In 1870, Joseph H. Rainey of South Carolina became the first black lawmaker sworn into the U.S. House of Representatives.
In 1913, authorities in Florence, Italy, announced that the “Mona Lisa,” stolen from the Louvre Museum in Paris in 1911, had been recovered.
In 1915, singer-actor Frank Sinatra was born Francis Albert Sinatra in Hoboken, New Jersey.
In 1917, during World War I, a train carrying some 1,000 French troops from the Italian front derailed while descending a steep hill in Modane; at least half of the soldiers were killed in France’s greatest rail disaster. Father Edward Flanagan founded Boys Town outside Omaha, Nebraska.
In 1946, a United Nations committee voted to accept a six-block tract of Manhattan real estate of-

fered as a gift by John D. Rockefeller, Jr. to be the site of the U.N.’s headquarters.
In 1963, Kenya became independent of Britain.
In 1977, the dance movie “Saturday Night Fever,” starring John Travolta, premiered in New York.
In 1985, 248 American soldiers and eight crew members were killed when an Arrow Air charter crashed after takeoff from Gander, Newfoundland.
In 1989, in New York, hotel queen Leona Helmsley, 69, was sentenced to four years in prison and fined \$7.1 million for tax evasion. (Helmsley served 18 months behind bars, plus a month at a halfway house and two months of house arrest.)
In 1995, by three votes, the Senate killed a constitutional amendment giving Congress authority to outlaw flag burning and other forms of desecration against Old Glory.
In 1997, Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, the international terrorist known as “Carlos the Jackal,” went on trial in Paris on charges of killing two French investigators and a Lebanese national. (Ramirez was convicted and is serving a life prison sentence.)
Ten years ago: Houston elected its first openly gay mayor, with voters handing a solid victory to City Controller Annise Parker after a hotly contested runoff with former city

attorney Gene Locke. Rescue crews found the body of a climber on Oregon’s Mount Hood while two others remained missing. (The bodies of the other two climbers were found in Aug. 2010.) Sophomore tailback Mark Ingram became the first player at the University of Alabama to win the Heisman Trophy.
Five years ago: President Barack Obama urged the Senate to ratify a \$1.1 trillion spending bill opposed by some Democrats, judging it an imperfect measure that stemmed from “the divided government that the American people voted for.” (The Senate passed the measure the next day.) Illustrator Norman Bridwell, 86, creator of Clifford the Red Dog, died in Martha’s Vineyard, Massachusetts.
One year ago: Michael Cohen, President Donald Trump’s one-time fixer, was sentenced to three years in prison for crimes that included arranging the payment of hush money to conceal Trump’s alleged sexual affairs. British Prime Minister Theresa May survived a political crisis over her Brexit deal, winning a no-confidence vote by Conservative lawmakers that could have brought an end to her leadership. (May announced her resignation as Conservative leader in June of 2019, after her Brexit deal was rejected by Parliament three times.)

BIRTHDAYS
Former TV host **Bob Barker** is 96. Basketball Hall of Famer **Bob Pettit** is 87. Singer **Connie Francis** is 82. Singer **Dionne Warwick** is 79. Rock singer-musician **Dickey Betts** is 76. Hall of Fame race car driver **Emerson Fittipaldi** is 73. Actor **Wings Hauser** is 72. Actor **Bill Nighy** is 70. Actor **Duane Chase** (Film: “The Sound of Music”) is 69. Country singer **LaCosta** is 69. Gymnast-turned-actor **Cathy Rigby** is 67. Author **Lorna Landvik** is 65. Singer-musician **Shella E.** is 62. Actor **Sheree J. Wilson** is 61. Pop singer **Daniel O’Donnell** is 58. International Tennis Hall of Famer **Tracy Austin** is 57. Rock musician **Eric Schenckman** (Spin Doctors) is 56. Rock musician **Nicholas Dimichino** (Nine Days) is 52. Author **Sophie Kinsella** is 50. News anchor **Maggie Rodriguez** is 50. Actor **Jennifer Connelly** is 49. Actor **Madchen Amick** is 49. Actor **Regina Hall** is 49. Country singer **Hank Williams III** is 47. Actor **Dr. Mayim Bialik** is 44. Model **Bridget Hall** is 42. Actor **Lucas Hedges** is 23. Actress **Sky Katz** is 15.

WORTH REPEATING
“If you possess something but you can’t give it away, then you don’t possess it... it possesses you.” — **Frank Sinatra (1915-1998)**

EPA

From A1

1,000 times lower than levels found in other studies, giving rise to questions about the accuracy of the South Carolina numbers.

“Good science stands up under scrutiny,” Partridge said Wednesday. “We’re not looking any more or any less at this study than we would at our own results, or any other study. We’re doing what good scientists do, what we’re required to do.”

Nikia Greene, remediation project manager for the Butte hill, said Wednesday, “My goal and objective is to make sure the cleanup is protective of human health and the environment. I think what you see today is the EPA team doing our due diligence.”

“It’s not just me and Ni-

kia,” Partridge said. “It’s numerous scientists, statisticians, toxicologists and engineers from other federal agencies, state and local health agencies” who have the same view of the study and its relationship to the body of literature on the subject.

Partridge said he has asked the researchers for any “splits,” or parts of the studied material, that remain plus the data sets produced by the testing laboratories in Montana and South Carolina.

He said Hailer has already provided some materials and he is confident the rest of what he asked for will be received shortly.

But he is not waiting to examine the data and retest the meconium to say, “Our job is to make sure this is not a public health emergency. Our initial review suggests it is not.”

McDermott of the University of South Carolina, one of the three researchers who did the study, said Wednesday, “I can say quite confidently that we made no mistakes in this study.” She added, “It is possible the EPA’s interpretation of some of the tables in the published literature is wrong, and thus the comparisons that lead them to believe the Butte levels are not elevated is also wrong.”

Regarding the South Carolina test results, McDermott insisted, “There is absolutely no reason to think they should have higher metal levels ... than the ones we observed.”

Partridge and Greene, along with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, a branch of the Centers for Disease Control, discussed the study and their findings this week at a meeting of

the “Health Study Working Group,” a group with representatives from many local agencies. EPA requires Atlantic Richfield and Butte-Silver Bow to produce a Butte health study every 5 years as a part of the cleanup. A new report is being worked on now.

“What we’ve tried to do with the working group,” Greene said, “is include community members and experts.” He said Hailer has been invited to join the working group, and has attended several meetings.

The group’s meetings “are not private,” Greene said, but they’re not exactly public either. They are not publicly noticed.

“They’re technical meetings,” Greene said. But EPA Region 8 spokesperson Andrew Mutter said, “We will do everything we can do to be more transparent in that effort.”

Ethics

From A1

could ask a lawmaker to request guidance from him.

Several did, and Everts and his legal staff determined that attending the event and having it be paid for by Leadership Montana would not have violated any ethics laws.

In a September email to Jeff Mangan, the commissioner of political practices, Leadership Montana president and chief executive officer Chantel Schieffer indicated the group expected the event to raise some questions. Leadership Montana has not ever lobbied the Legislature and is prohibited from doing so as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

“In anticipation of curiosity on the part of the public, some lawmakers have already asked for an opinion from the Code Commissioner around participating in our training,” Schieffer wrote. “... I understand that this sort of training may elevate to the public eye. Indeed, we are happy to shine a light on our process.”

Since Mangan’s role is to act as a judge in responding to ethics complaints, he can’t provide advisory ethics opinions, and Leadership Montana didn’t formally request one. But Mangan did bring his concerns to lawmakers and Everts. Because of the confusion and tight timeline before the event was to be held, Leadership Montana decided to delay.

In lengthy memos citing laws and the ethics code, and a two-hour discussion with the Legislative Council on Tuesday, Mangan and Everts disagreed on several things surrounding the retreat. That included whether it amounted to lawmakers participating in “legislative acts.”

That term isn’t defined in the ethics code. What meets the definition of a “lavish or extravagant” gift also isn’t clarified, nor is an “educational activity.”

Because of the disagreement over whether the event constitutes lawmakers acting in their legislative capacity, there’s also disagreement over who would have jurisdiction in this case to decide whether something is in line with the ethics code. If lawmakers are engaging in “legislative acts,” the Legislature itself would police them. If they’re acting outside that capacity, it would fall to Mangan.

Everts and Mangan agree they want to see the Legislature create some clarity around the issue by coming up with definitions for the terms in question.

The Legislative Council, a bipartisan group of legislative leaders that provides di-

rection to the Legislature and oversees operations, directed its staff to come up with recommendations on how to accomplish that in the 2021 session.

“The reason there’s ambiguity in this is because ‘legislative acts’ is not defined in the code of ethics and we don’t have guidance,” Everts said.

Mangan told the council Tuesday that he was not weighing in on the merits of the Leadership Montana retreat or whether it qualified as an “educational opportunity,” Everts was clear to say that the discussion was only about educational events and not the entire ethics code.

But Mangan did want lawmakers to be aware of something hovering over the debate: a decision from the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals earlier this year affirming that ethics complaints against Montana elected officials must be made public when lodged, and the potential for weaponizing those complaints in a year when voters will choose who fills 125 of the 150 seats in the state Legislature.

State Rep. Casey Schreiner, a Great Falls Democrat who was minority leader in the House last session, is presiding officer of the Legislative Council. He said Tuesday he understood the concern over the possibility of ethics complaints being used against a candidate. Schreiner is also running for governor in 2020.

“We are in a hyper-partisan situation now where we have ethics complaints filed that are for frivolous purposes,” Schreiner said. Other lawmakers on the committee said they were frustrated about missing the training opportunity.

“The practical effect is it limited educational options for members who are currently serving,” said state Rep. Kim Abbott, D-Helena.

Lawmakers did resolve the issue related specifically to the Leadership Montana training, voting unanimously Tuesday on a motion to make clear they view the retreat as a legislative act and appropriate to attend.

“I want to make sure we at least went on record for that particular event ... I want that clear before we adjourn today so people can start getting going on the planning for that event,” state Sen. Jon Sesso, a Butte Democrat and minority leader in the Senate last session.

Leadership Montana has two retreats for lawmakers now planned in 2020 at the West Creek Ranch.

“The clarity that came from yesterday’s committee hearing gives us an opportunity to move forward,” Schieffer said.

Hostage

From A1

against Gibson continue, even if it meant involuntary medication.

Virginia Hill, a forensic psychologist at the state hospital, testified that Gibson was in great physical health and was quite intelligent. But he suffers from a delusional disorder that severely impacts his ability to help in his own defense, she said.

He believes he was being chased by gang or mafia members in Washington state, she said, and they followed him to Montana and were “spoofing” his phone in Missoula before he traveled to Butte.

There is “overwhelming evidence” his version of events was delusional, said Hill, but he holds onto those beliefs and “I have not seen a change in his thinking.” Long-term use of opioid painkillers may have contributed to the delusional thoughts, Hill speculated.

Hill said there was a good chance the antipsychotic medication Zyprexa would cause the delusional thinking to subside to the point where he could assist in his own defense, but it would likely take at least six months of treatment to see significant changes.

If he refused to take the medication orally, she said, it could be administered involuntarily through injections supervised by doctors and several staff members.

Sheehy told Krueger he was convinced his client had delusions “but he does not believe he has them.” He asked Hill what Gibson’s defense plan was.

She said Gibson believes he has 50 witnesses who could corroborate his story about being chased by gang members and would “wait until the last second” to bring that up in his defense. Sheehy noted that such “curve balls” in court aren’t allowed.

“He has told me that unless his attorney goes along with his plan, the attorney

will only have stand-by status,” Hill said.

Gibson interrupted the hearing a few times but was ultimately allowed to speak for himself. He reiterated his claims that he was trying to flee from MS-13 gang members and said “these are not nice characters.”

“Just because you didn’t see them doesn’t mean it’s not true,” he told Sheehy.

He said he was studying Montana law at the state hospital but was “perfectly willing to work with capable counsel.” But he said Sheehy wasn’t capable and was not working on his behalf.

He also said he didn’t want to take antipsychotic medications because he saw the effects it had on others, including sleeping all day and gaining weight.

Krueger said the medication might help the delusions fade so he authorized they be given at the state hospital, forcibly if necessary. He wants a progress report on the treatment after 90 days.

According to police and

prosecutors, Gibson and Dameane Baumgartner were the only two passengers on a Jefferson Lines bus going from Missoula to Billings when it pulled into Butte for a stop.

The driver heard Gibson say he had a gun and a bomb he had assembled during the trip. Gibson said “he wanted to go to the courthouse and knew who he wanted to speak to ... but never told him who that was,” prosecutors said in a charging affidavit.

The driver went to the Civic Center on Harrison Avenue instead, pulled in around 12:35 p.m., and when Gibson was distracted, hopped off and disabled the bus and front passenger door so it couldn’t be closed.

After about two hours, when police left food and a cell phone at the bus door, Baumgartner shoved Gibson and got off the bus. At 9:25 p.m., police deployed an explosive breaching device, pepper spray and tear gas, and Gibson left the bus with his gun still on board.

VanDyke

From A1

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., criticized both newly confirmed judges, saying Bumatay and VanDyke were unqualified. Bumatay acknowledged working on the Trump administration’s policy of separating families at the U.S.-Mexico border, Feinstein said, while VanDyke has taken “extreme positions” on a range of issues.

In a floor speech, Cortez Masto said President Donald Trump’s nomination of VanDyke “sets a dangerous precedent for the Senate and would allow future administrations to nominate virtual outsiders to communities across the country over senators’ objections.”

She and Rosen called VanDyke an extreme partisan and said he has a record of using cases to advance an ideological agenda. Liberal groups have criticized VanDyke as a zealot who opposes gun regulations and poses a threat to women and the LGBT community.

Democrats and other critics cited a letter from the American Bar Association rating VanDyke “not qualified” and calling him “arrogant, lazy, an ideologue and lacking in knowledge of the day-

to-day practice including procedural rules.”

The Giffords Law Center, a gun safety group, decried VanDyke’s “uniquely troublesome record” and said his “legally unsupported views on gun policy ... disqualify him for a life-tenured seat on the federal bench.”

The Alliance for Justice, a liberal advocacy group, said VanDyke has “repeatedly attacked the rights of women,” including support for an Arizona anti-abortion law and opposition to contraceptive coverage mandated by the Affordable Care Act.

VanDyke also has expressed concerns about gay parenting and same-sex marriage.

Carrie Severino, policy director of the Judicial Crisis Network, a conservative advocacy group, called VanDyke a victim of a “left-wing smear campaign.”

Severino, a classmate of VanDyke at Harvard Law School, said in a statement that “you couldn’t ask for a better lawyer or a man of more exemplary character” than VanDyke.

“With deep roots in the West, Lawrence is very familiar with the challenges faced by states in the 9th Circuit, and as solicitor general for Montana and Nevada, he was on the front lines of the legal challenges to the

overreach by the Obama administration and its job-killing” Environmental Protection Agency, Severino said.

She and other supporters said the ABA’s negative rating of VanDyke was just the latest example of the group’s leftward tilt. “The ABA has lost its credibility as a neutral arbiter. It should be treated no differently than any other special interest group,” said Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah.

The VanDyke and Bumatay nominations continue a trend in which Trump has ignored opposition from home-state Democrats to nominate conservative lawyers to the bench. Presidents typically consult with home-state senators before announcing judicial

appointments, a practice Trump has abandoned.

VanDyke served as a Nevada solicitor general for four years before joining the Justice Department’s environment and natural resources division earlier this year.

A Texas native, VanDyke graduated from Montana State University and ran unsuccessfully for the Montana Supreme Court in 2014. A member of the conservative Federalist Society, VanDyke supports Trump’s efforts to expand oil and gas exploration on public lands.

Bumatay, 41, has served in a variety of positions at the Justice Department, most recently as assistant U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of California.



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OPINION

The
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MONTANA VIEW

Montana needs baseball

Montana’s U.S. senators are going to bat for our state’s Minor League Baseball teams.

Last week, Sens. Jon Tester and Steve Daines each met with Major League Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred and followed up with letters strongly opposing a plan that would eliminate 26% of minor league teams, including baseball clubs in Billings, Great Falls and Missoula.

“Due to Montana’s geographical location, the closest major league team is over 500 miles away and these minor league teams are the best opportunities for Montanans to see professional baseball,” Daines wrote. “Generations of Montanans have grown up watching future hall of famers such as George Brett, Trevor Hoffman, Bobby Cox, Ryne Sandberg and Pedro Martinez and I hope that future Montanans will continue to have the opportunity to see the next generation of baseball hall of famers.”

Both Tester and Daines pointed out that the taxpayers of Billings invested \$12.5 million in bonds for our ballpark that opened just 11 years ago. Billings voters approved construction of a beautiful ballpark that meets all professional baseball standards and will be paying off that bond debt for another nine years or so.

Great Falls and Missoula taxpayers have footed bills for baseball stadium improvements, too.

“As MLB examines ways to grow the sport and deal with the decline in younger viewers, I believe it is vital for MLB to invest in rural communities by maintaining MLB affiliates,” wrote Tester, who used to listen to Canadian broadcasts of baseball games while driving his tractor on his Big Sandy farm. “When a young person in Montana can attend a local Pioneer League game and see future stars like Paul Goldschmidt play for the Missoula Osprey or Joey Votto play for the Billings Mustangs, it inspires a connection to the game that will last a lifetime. These are the kids that will eventually purchase MLB TV packages and take road trips to see their favorite players at the MLB parks.”

At a time that professional baseball is struggling to attract younger fans, cutting a quarter of the farm teams — four entire leagues spread around the nation — Manfred is proposing to reduce the audience further. Eliminating teams in 40 cities would be a terrible marketing move.

In a New York Daily News column published last month, Bill Madden speculated that MLB will be “hit with an avalanche of lawsuits from communities that have built new ballparks on taxpayers’ money, all of which would figure to threaten their long-cherished anti-trust exemption. It’s been estimated that \$300 million in equity will be lost by the minor league owners whose teams are being eliminated. (Point of clarification: When a person purchases a minor league team, the only “insurance policy” on their investment is the PBA agreement that guarantees 160 teams. That agreement is expiring after this year and MLB is now intent on reducing that guarantee to 118 teams.)”

Manfred’s biography on the Major League Baseball website proclaims that he “has overseen the development of closer relationships with youth baseball and softball organizations and has allocated new resources toward improving MLB’s presence in the amateur ranks” and also that “under Manfred’s leadership, MLB has formed core partnerships with Boys & Girls Clubs of America.”

It will be hard to maintain partnerships with Boys & Girls Clubs in 40 communities if they lose their professional baseball teams.

Daines and Tester aren’t the only senators teaming up to save local professional baseball. They are right to speak up and MLB should listen: If MLB wants to be America’s sport, it must keep playing ball in rookie leagues.

The Billings Gazette

READERS SPEAK

Undercutting military

So Donald Trump fired the head of the Navy because the head of the Navy disagreed with Trump’s release of an officer who had committed many war crimes, including stabbing a teenage detainee to death and then posing with the corpse.

Now we are training Saudis an the air base in Pensacola, Florida, and one Saudi shot three American Navy students and wounded eight.

It looks so strange that this president took money from the military, got rid of the head of the Navy and is OK with training Saudis to fly in our country.

Wake up, Americans who care that we aren’t taken over by foreign dictators.

Joseph Gervais, Corvallis

We need health help

I am not a scientist. But, I don’t have to be one to know that if I hold out my hand and feel droplets of water, it is raining. And in like manner, if I get up to go to work and find a blanket, a ‘dusting’ of sorts, covering my vehicle, I know, without scientific study, our neighborhood, our city, has an air pollution problem.

Years ago, when I served on the Council of Commissioners, we heard a report from a Montana government agency de-

tailoring results from the Greeley School monitoring station. If you simply accepted the report findings, you would not be alarmed. However, when residents of our neighborhood brought in bags of material from their gutters and offered testimony of similar ‘dusting’ of their vehicles, the agency rep had to admit that the large particulate matter collected was too large for the monitoring station to detect and analyze.

Now we have at least four studies that confirm heavy metals in the air are hazardous to human health. These separate individual studies are alarming and point out the need for a coordinated effort to address this health issue. Not surprisingly, the initial reaction of some entities to the latest reports, is to attack the findings and/or the scientists for their ‘faulty data’ or methods. But how do you attack the residents of our neighborhoods and our city who are getting sick with serious illnesses and our children are being affected at a much higher rate than other counties or cities in Montana?

You don’t have to be a scientist to see the results of large particulate heavy metals ‘raining’ down on our community. We don’t need another study, we need help to address this health issue ... now!

Terry L Schultz, Butte



Clues on impeachment

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans haven’t yet said how they plan to handle President Trump’s trial, but on Wednesday they gave us some clues.

Sens. Lindsey Graham, Ted Cruz and others brought in the Justice Department’s inspector general, Michael Horowitz, to ask him about his report on the FBI’s 2016 probe of the Trump campaign, which delivered unwelcome news for the conspiracy crowd.

The report found serious errors, worrisome abuses and dubious policies, but it also found that investigators didn’t tap Trump’s phones, plant an informant at his campaign, entrap his advisers or execute any of the other conspiracy theories Trump and his defenders floated. To the contrary, Horowitz found no evidence of political bias and concluded that the probe had a legitimate purpose and factual, legal basis.

So Republicans settled on a creative approach: They simply disregarded Horowitz’s findings.

“They were on a mission not to protect Trump but to ... protect all of us smelly people from Donald Trump,” Graham alleged. “That’s what this is about.”

Never mind that the inspectors found no such evidence in more than 1 million documents and more than 100 interviews over 19 months. “Whether you believe it or not, I believe it!” Graham announced.

Cruz, too, wasn’t about to let the findings get in his way. “You did not find evidence of political bias. That is a judgment that you have and I disagree with that,” Cruz told the inspector general.

Sen. Mike Lee, R-Utah, topped them all, arguing that the failure to find political bias proved there was political bias. “Is not the lack of evidence that you’re

talking about itself evidence of bias?” he asked Horowitz.

Let this be a cautionary tale for anybody who still believes Senate Republicans might do things on the level. Even confronted with 434 pages of unbiased, exhaustively researched findings, they covered their ears and cried “LA-LA-LA-LA-LA.”

Politico reports that a small group of moderate Democrats in the House met about the possibility of censuring Trump instead of impeaching. Rep. Kurt Schrader of Oregon said it “might be a little more bipartisan.”

You poor, sweet child. In a rational world, Republicans would indeed be open to a way to rebuke Trump’s behavior without removing him. But this is not a rational world. House GOP leader Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., declared this week that Trump “did nothing wrong.” (He then asserted, falsely, that Horowitz found that the FBI “spied on a presidential campaign.”)

Now Senate Republicans are forming a cypoccat cuckoo caucus. FBI Director Chris Wray — a Trump appointee — is the latest of many political appointees and civil servants to say there is “no information that indicates that Ukraine interfered with the 2016 presidential election.”

So what? Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., joined by Graham and Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, demanded Obama administration records to prove otherwise, declaring: “Contrary to the popular narrative in the mainstream media that Ukrainian involvement in the 2016 election has been debunked, or ‘no evidence exists,’ there are many unanswered questions that have festered for years.”

Cruz, meanwhile, said on NBC that there is “considerable evidence” of Ukrainian interference, echoing comments by Sen. John Neely Kennedy, R-La..

Trump himself is now spreading a new conspiracy theory,

telling a rally Tuesday night that Peter Strzok, one of the FBI officials in the 2016 probe, “needed a restraining order to keep him away from his once lover,” FBI lawyer Lisa Page. “That’s what I heard. I don’t know if it’s true.”

Next, Trump will push to turn the Senate impeachment trial into a circus. His aides have said they want witnesses — presumably, figures such as Hunter Biden and the whistleblower. Democrats, by contrast, may want to call in the likes of Trump’s lawyer Rudy Giuliani, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, acting White House chief of staff Mick Mulvaney and others who refused to participate in the House probe.

Whether to hold a serious trial, a Trumpian circus or skip witnesses entirely will largely be up to Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. He has claimed he “does not really have ball control,” but that’s nonsense: Almost everything will be decided by a 51-vote majority, giving McConnell full control unless principled (Mitt Romney?) or vulnerable (Susan Collins?) Republicans defect.

Judging from Senate Republicans’ handling of the inspector general’s findings, McConnell will find it difficult to keep it honest, even if he wants to.

Calmly, Horowitz explained that he uncovered no evidence of political bias — not in emails and texts, not in interviews, not from anonymous whistleblowers on his hotline.

It didn’t matter to Republicans.

Graham proclaimed the agents “biased,” Sen. Josh Hawley, R-Mo., concluded that they “effectively meddled in an ongoing presidential campaign” and Sen. Marsha Blackburn, R-Tenn., proclaimed the FBI’s “absolute maliciousness.”

No evidence required.

Follow Washington Post columnist Dana Milbank on Twitter, @Milbank.

GUEST VIEW

Plan to boost budget

Through this brief opinion, I’d like to paint a small picture of my plan to increase funds in the state budget. Currently I am in the race for the governor’s seat as an independent conservative.

My vision for the state is a state that combats poverty, without dismissing the values that make the people of Montana unique. Montana has been exploited all through its history, and I want to take advantage of those who are taking advantage of the people of Montana. I call this the “Treasure Deal.”

This plan increases the state’s income without levying more taxes on the people. It involves a joint effort with Congress to allow more opportunities for those educated in Montana to stay here and work in positions in our national parks in exchange for a portion of the revenue that each national park generates each year. The deal also makes it easier for families to enjoy our national parks and embrace what is ours.

Here is what I envision this looking like.

Anyone who has a Montana driver’s license would not pay to enter either national park.

Students who graduate from a Montana college would have the opportunity to use that education to replace federal workers in the parks. The exchange of workers would put the burden of payment on the state; however, this would reduce the cost that the National Park Service has to pay for upkeep each year. Which would be a bargaining chip to receive a portion of that revenue that the NPS makes each year in Yellowstone and Glacier.

The portion of that revenue that Montana would receive would exceed the cost to pay the workers and would give the state autonomy to implement other programs, to generate state revenue, and would make the state a competitive destination for scientific research. Which would give the state more freedom in awarding federally funded research grants.

The whole plan would remove the responsibility of the federal government and puts that responsibility and *rewards* on the people of Montana, while still embracing the United States of America.

Furthermore, the Treasury plan also changes residency requirements. It would now take a person three years to establish residency; this is a measure to protect the national parks investment.

Under this plan, holding a Montana driver’s license to enter the parks, would generate more income from more (new resident) driver’s license fees, and put more folks on the hook for income taxes without putting that financial burden on property owners.

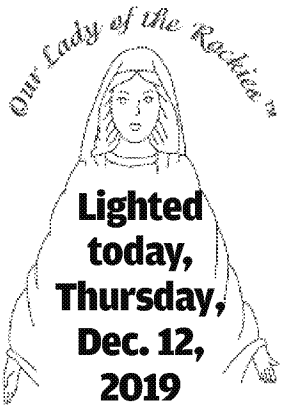
Within this time period, the new interstate immigrant would be responsible for paying income taxes to the state of Montana that is a percentage short of their previous states rates. However, incentives to reduce that would be drawn into the plan. Incentives that lead to better-paying wages to the people of Montana.

This would also change the residency requirements for hunting purposes too, however there would be clauses and incentives to allow families, and former residents the opportunity to continue in hunting without having to worry about inflated tag prices.

This would put the burden of generating revenue for the state on those who exploit our natural beauty and space. It would reduce the burden from our landowners. I can see this becoming quite a surplus in state income. Which equals a deflation of property taxes statewide.

Peter Ziehli of Great Falls is running for governor.

OBITUARIES



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Ronald Eugene ‘Ron’ Marshall, 67

Nov. 19, 1952- Dec. 8, 2019



Ronald Eugene “Ron” Marshall, 67, formerly of Anaconda, passed away December 8th, 2019, in Butte, after a short battle with cancer. Ron was born November 19th, 1952, to Carlos & Teresa (Zeier) Marshall.

Ron grew up in Anaconda where he attended Catholic Schools, and graduated from Anaconda Senior High School in 1971. Ron met Susan McSloy and the

Janice Kay Dombroski, 74



Janice Kay Dombroski, 74, peacefully passed away at her Boise, Idaho residence, into the loving arms of our heavenly Father on December 7, 2019. A service celebrating Janice's life will be held at 11:00 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 14, at the Middleton LDS Chapel, 1749 Willis Rd., in Middleton, Idaho.

A viewing will be held from 10:00-10:45 a.m. at the church, prior to the funeral service. Burial will

follow at the Middleton Cemetery. Arrangements are being provided by the Zeyer Funeral Chapel, 208-467-7300. To read the full obituary or express condolences please visit zeyerfuneralchapel.com.

Norman Bohrnson, 92

Oct. 3, 1927- Dec. 9, 2019

Norman Bohrnson, 92, passed away on Dec. 9, 2019 at the Granite County Medical Center Nursing Home in Philipsburg, MT.

Norman Victor Bohrnson was born October 3, 1927, in Philipsburg, MT, to Henry and Ruth Bohrnson. The family lived at the sapphire mines on the West Fork of Rock Creek where Henry was the foreman for the American Gem Mining Co., and Ruth was the cook. In 1936, the family moved to Willow Creek. Norman only obtained an 8th grade education, but he was a lifelong learner and reader, especially enjoying books about history, ranching, and the old west.

As a young man, Norman and his brother Edward were rodeo cowboys, participating in the very first ever Drummond Rodeo. Later, they were both Grand Marshals in Drummond and in 2018, Norman was the Grand Marshal in Philipsburg.

Norman met his wife of over 60 years, Coreene, when the musical group she toured with stopped in Philipsburg. He followed her all the way back to Jackson, MS and courted her. Coreene and Norman married on June 3, 1949. Originally, they had planned to go to Alaska, but instead they started their married life in a one-room schoolhouse on Willow Creek. Norman worked for the county road department and helped his parents on the ranch. Soon after, they decided to take on the ride of their life, buying their ranch on Rock Creek. Together with Norman's brother Edward, they built a successful business, known today as Bohrnson Ranch, INC. Norman and Coreene adopted Martha Louise in 1958, and completed their family when they adopted Geoffrey Cabot in 1962.

Norman made many, many friends over the years especially within the ranching community. Neighbor ranchers, ranch hands, hay crews, community members, hunters, and fishermen all knew him as a friendly man who led a simple life. He was never one to raise his voice, a respected, hardworking pioneer of his time and one of the best Grandfathers/Great-grandfathers around. Many people have fond memories of Norman and the ranch, the hay crews and the meals that Coreene would fix for everyone. The 4th of July was a treasured time, shared with friends and family for many years on the ranch. Norman would cut down the trees and construct a bonfire followed by a cookout, fireworks, and storytelling. His God was the outdoors and his ranch. Norman lived the life that he loved, ranching his land for seventy years.

As strong and tough as Norman was, the last several years he required more help to keep his dream of ranching alive. Geoff and Lisa live on the ranch and have always assisted Norman with many ranch needs. Norman's daughter Martha moved to the ranch from Spokane in 2008 to assist with caring for Coreene in her final years and stayed to help Norman after her passing in 2011. His grandson Eric also comes from Spokane every spring to work through the summer and has been a blessing to Norman in his final years of ranching. Many friends and family have graciously given their time and talents to Norman and the ranch over the years.

Norman was preceded in death by his parents, Henry and Ruth Bohrnson; brothers Raymond Rau, Johnny Bohrnson, and Edward Bohrnson; loving wife Coreene Bohrnson; and beloved grandson PFC Kyle Geoffrey Bohrnson.

Norman will be greatly missed by his daughter, Martha Bohrnson-Brandon; son Geoffrey (Lisa) Bohrnson; grandchildren Heather (Dana) Holloway, Eric Brandon, and Danielle Bohrnson; his cherished great-grandson Drayson Holloway, as well as many other treasured family and friends.

Cremation arrangements are under the care of Longfellow Finnegan Riddle Funeral Homes. Norman's ashes will be placed in a handcrafted urn, specially made by friend Gary Kamps. A private service will be held at a later date, details to be determined. For those wishing to make a donation, the family suggests the Philipsburg Area Educational Foundation, the Philipsburg Library, or the Butte Compassus Hospice.

Longfellow Finnegan Riddle Funeral & Cremation Service is entrusted with Norman's funeral arrangements. You may pay your condolences at www.longfellowfinneganriddle.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Duggan Dolan

MARSHALL — Friends of Mr. Ronald Eugene Marshall may call Saturday after 10:00 a.m. in the Duggan Dolan Mortuary Chapel. Funeral Services will be conducted at 11:00 a.m. A complete obituary has been published in today's edition of The Montana Standard.

LARVIE — Mr. Earl Murray Larvie passed away early Tuesday morning in the Bee Hive Assisted Living Center. At his request, Mr. Larvie's remains have been cremated. There are no local services planned at this time. His ashes will be forwarded to South



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Dakota. A complete obituary will be published in a later edition of the Montana Standard.

CHOUINARD — Mr. Rodney Alfred Chouinard passed away at his residence in Bozeman, Montana. Friends may call on Monday after 10:00 a.m. in St. Ann's Catholic Church. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. A complete obituary will be published in a later edition of the Montana Standard.

Wayrynen-Richards

SUNDBERG — Visitation for Donald Sundberg will begin Saturday morning at 10 o'clock in St. Ann Catholic Church where funeral mass will be celebrated at 11 o'clock. interment with Rite of Committal will be in Sunset Memorial Park.

PAYNICH — Memorial services for Dan Paynich will be conducted Saturday afternoon at 1 o'clock



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in Wayrynen-Richards Funeral Home with Deacon Dan McGrath officiating. A reception will follow in Wayrynen-Richards Community Center.

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SEYMOUR — Alice Joy Seymour, age 85, of Butte, passed away on Saturday, December 7th. Visitation will begin at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, December 13, at the Copper King Hotel in the King Ballroom, 4655 Harrison Ave. A Funeral Liturgy and Celebration of her life will begin at 1:00 p.m. Memorials in



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honor of Alice are suggested to Senior Solutions Hospice Care or to Our Lady of the Rockies.

Jury convicts man of killing estranged wife

Testimony of man's children aids in conviction

ASSOCIATED PRESS

BOZEMAN — A Montana man accused of killing his estranged wife and critically injuring one of her roommates was convicted Tuesday of multiple charges.

Jurors in Gallatin County found Joseph “Paul” DeWise guilty of deliberate homicide in the January 2018 death of Lauren Walder DeWise and guilty of attempted deliberate homicide for shooting Ashley

Van Hemert. He is scheduled to be sentenced Feb. 4.

DeWise, who testified Monday and Tuesday, acknowledged he could track his wife's phone and her car and that he made a recording on his phone saying he wouldn't hit her if she stopped cheating on him.

But he said prosecutors had mischaracterized his statements throughout the investigation and “that's why whoever did this is still out there,” the Bozeman Daily Chronicle reported.

Joe DeWise, 17, testified earlier that he was with his father when he drove to Belgrade and shot the women.

He also said his father ordered him to get rid of the murder weapon and he discarded it at a pond near their house, where it was located.

Natalie DeWise, 19, testified that her father confessed to killing Lauren DeWise when he woke her up to go to church the next morning. She also said her father called her from jail and asked her to convince her younger brother to confess.

Both children said they initially told police the story their father told them to — that they had stayed home and watched movies that evening and went to bed at

2 a.m.

Other witnesses testified to physical abuse in the relationship.

During closing arguments, Deputy Gallatin County Attorney Eric Kitzmiller reminded jurors that DeWise was able to recall confronting Lauren DeWise twice when he found her cheating, but “the night his wife is killed his memory is fuzzy? That defines common sense, ladies and gentlemen.”

Defense attorney Annie DeWolf told jurors the family was happy.

“There was no abuse,” she said.

Helena man faces charges of felony assault against infant

NOLAN LISTER

nolan.lister@helenair.com

HELENA — A 23-year-old East Helena man has been charged with one felony count of assault on a minor after allegedly beating an infant in his care.

In court documents filed Friday, police allege Frederick Moore physically abused a 1-year-old boy whose mother left him in Moore's care while driving Moore's adult friend home.

Helena Police Department detectives responded to the

call from St. Peter's Hospital Thursday where they interviewed the victim's mother.

According to the detectives' affidavit, Moore, the victim and the victim's mother live together in a residence on the 3600 block of Eichoff Road.

The previous day, Moore said, he sold his truck and



purchased alcohol. He stated he had consumed an entire bottle of Fireball Cinnamon Whisky then drove to Clancy to pick his friend. Moore then brought his friend from Clancy back to his home to continue drinking.

Moore told detectives he became so intoxicated he passed out and was unaware the child had been left in his custody while the child's mother drove the friend back to Clancy.

When the mother returned home approximately

a half hour later, she said she found the child asleep on Moore's chest. When she took the child to his bedroom, she noticed blood stains on some of the blankets in his crib and pieces of his clothing that had been tossed into a hamper.

The mother said she then observed “several injuries” and took the baby to the hospital.

The injuries were identified by medical staff as “non-accidental trauma.” Both ears and the sides of

the baby's head were bruised, with “very visible swelling behind the right ear.” The victim also had bruising on the back of his left leg and buttock; injuries on his upper lip and lower right chin; and petechiae (bruising) under his left eye.

The mother said she confronted Moore at the time she discovered her son's injuries, but Moore “was still intoxicated and made a grumbling noise and continued to sleep.

All charged are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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Fears mount that New Jersey shooting was anti-Semitic attack

Authorities describe how shooters used rental van, fired rifle

DAVID PORTER AND JIM MUSTIAN
Associated Press

JERSEY CITY, N.J. (AP) — Fears that a deadly shooting at a Jewish market in Jersey City was an anti-Semitic attack mounted on Wednesday as authorities recounted how a man and woman deliberately pulled up to the place in a stolen rental van with at least one rifle and got out firing.

A day after the gunbattle and standoff that left six people dead — the two killers, a police officer and three people who had been inside the store — state and federal law enforcement officials warned they have not established the motive for the attack.

“The why and the ideology and the motivation — that’s what we’re investigating,” New Jersey Attorney General Gurbir Grewal said, adding that authorities are also trying to determine if anyone else was involved.

But Mayor Steve Fulop said surveillance video of the attackers made it clear they targeted the kosher market, and he pronounced the bloodshed a hate crime against Jews, as did New York’s mayor and governor.

Also, investigators believe the two dead attackers — who were thought to be a couple — identified themselves in the past as Black Hebrew Israelites, a movement whose members have been known to rail against whites and Jews, according to a law enforcement official who was briefed on the matter but was not authorized to discuss the case publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity.

In addition, authorities have found social media postings from at least one of the killers that were anti-police and anti-Jewish, the official said. The FBI on Wednesday searched the Harlem headquarters of the Israelite Church of God in Jesus Christ, which is the formal name of the Black Hebrew group, according to the official.

The killers were identified as David N. Anderson, 47, and Francine Graham, 50 — both of them also prime suspects in the slaying of a livery driver found dead in a



A piece of police tape is seen by Bay View Cemetery in Jersey City, N.J., Wednesday. The two gunmen in a furious firefight that left six people dead in Jersey City clearly targeted a Jewish market, the mayor said Wednesday, amid growing suspicions the bloodshed was an anti-Semitic attack. The shooting began near the cemetery, where Det. Joseph Seals, a 40-year-old member of a unit devoted to taking illegal guns off the street, was killed while trying to stop “bad guys,” Police Chief Michael Kelly said without elaborating.

car trunk in nearby Bayonne over the weekend, Grewal said. Anderson served about four months in prison in New Jersey on weapons charges and was paroled in 2011, authorities said.

Two of the victims at the store were identified by members of the Orthodox Jewish community as Mindel Ferencz, 31, who with her husband owned the grocery, and 24-year-old Moshe Deutsch, a rabbinical student from Brooklyn who was shopping there. The Ferencz family had moved to Jersey City from Brooklyn. Authorities identified the third victim as store owner Douglas Miguel Rodriguez, 49.

“The report from the Jersey City mayor saying it was a targeted attack makes us incredibly concerned in the Jewish community,” said Evan Bernstein, regional director of the Anti-Defamation League, the Jewish civil rights organization. “They want answers. They demand answers. If this was truly a targeted killing of Jews, then we need to know that right away, and there needs to be the pushing back on this at the highest levels possible.”

The bloodshed in the city of 270,000 people across the Hud-

son River from New York City began at a graveyard, where Detective Joseph Seals, a 40-year-old member of a unit devoted to taking illegal weapons off the street, was gunned down by the assailants, authorities said. They then drove the van about a mile to the kosher market.

Grewal said that within seconds of pulling up to the market, Anderson got out with a rifle and immediately began shooting, and Graham followed him into the store. He would not say whether Graham had a weapon.

A pipe bomb was found in the van, FBI agent Gregory Ehrie said. Jersey City’s mayor said it was clear that the killers deliberately made their way toward the kosher market, passing many other possible targets along the way, and calmly and promptly opened fire.

“We shouldn’t parse words on whether this is a hate crime at this point. This was a hate crime against Jewish ppl + hate has no place,” he tweeted, adding: “Some will say don’t call it anti-semitism or a hate crime till a longer review but being Jewish myself + the grandson of holocaust survivors I know enough to call it what this is.”

New York Mayor Bill de Blasio likewise said the attack was a “premeditated, violent, anti-Semitic hate crime,” while New York



SETH WENIG PHOTOS, ASSOCIATED PRESS

A police officer removes tape from a car that was damaged by gunfire near the site of a gun battle at a kosher supermarket in Jersey City, N.J., Wednesday.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo called it a “deliberate attack on the Jewish community.” They announced tighter police protection of synagogues and other Jewish establishments in New York as a precaution.

The drawn-out battle with police filled the streets with the sound of high-powered rifle fire and turned the city into what looked like a war zone, with SWAT officers in full tactical gear swarming the neighborhood. The attackers were killed in the shootout with police.

A fourth bystander was shot at the store when the attackers burst in, but escaped, Grewal said. His name was not released.

Chabad Rabbi Moshe Schapiro said he spoke with the survivor at a hospital. “He said the guy next to him fell to the ground,” Schapiro said. “He suffered two gunshot wounds but managed to run out of the store and climb over fences.”

The prospect of attacks against Jews weighed heavily on the more than 300 people who attended a vigil Wednesday night at a synagogue about a mile from where the shootings took place.

“I think maybe we have two parts of our brain,” said Temple Beth-El president Tom Rossensweet. “One part is absolutely not expecting something like this to happen in Jersey City, but the other part knows we have to be careful.”

In the deadliest such attack in U.S. history, 11 people were killed

in an October 2018 shooting at a synagogue in Pittsburgh. Last April, a gunman opened fire at a synagogue north of San Diego, killing a woman and wounding a rabbi and two others.

The heartbreak was obvious Wednesday night as thousands of mostly men followed Ferencz’ casket through the streets of Brooklyn hugging and crying. Many prayed.

The kosher grocery is a central fixture in a growing community of Orthodox Jews who have been moving to Jersey City in recent years and settling in what was a mostly black section of Jersey City, causing some resentment.

Mordechai Rubin, a member of the local Jewish emergency medical services, said the small Jewish community has grown over the past three or four years, made up mostly of people from Brooklyn seeking a “nicer, quieter” and more affordable place to live. Next to the store is a synagogue with a school and day care center where 40 students were present at the time of the shooting, he said.

“It’s unfortunate what happened, but we don’t even want to think about what would have happened if they made their way up to the day care or to the synagogue,” he said.

Authorities also warned that several fake Go Fund me pages have popped up purporting to be raising funds for the family of the slain officer, a father of five.

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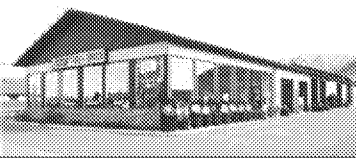
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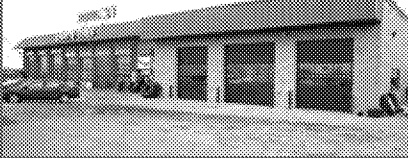
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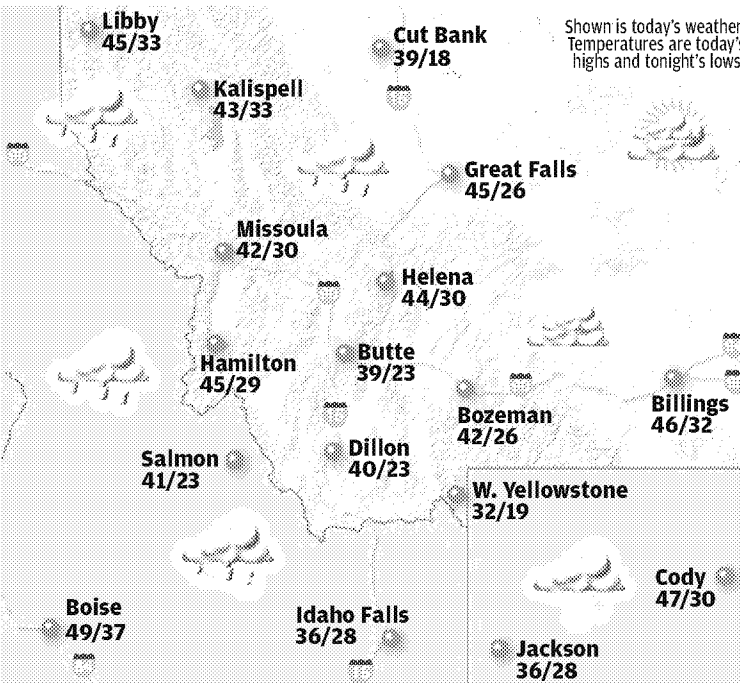


BUTTE’S FIVE-DAY FORECAST

TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Morning snow showers WIND W 6-12 mph 39°	Mainly cloudy WIND W 6-12 mph 23°	A bit of snow WIND W 4-8 mph 35° 11°	Mostly cloudy with a flurry WIND W 3-6 mph 27° 8°	Sun and clouds WIND W 3-6 mph 25° 4°	A couple of flurries WIND W 3-6 mph 26° 4°

REGIONAL OUTLOOK

Mostly cloudy today. A shower; morning snow showers, then a shower to the east and in central parts. Mainly cloudy tonight. A bit of ice to the east; a flurry in the south and west. Mostly cloudy tomorrow with a bit of snow, accumulating a coating to an inch.



REGIONAL FORECAST

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Friday Hi/Lo/W
Anaconda	41/27/c	36/15/sn
Billings	46/32/c	38/17/pc
Boulder	41/28/c	36/17/sn
Bozeman	42/26/c	37/16/sn
Dillon	40/23/c	35/10/sn
Drummond	42/29/sh	38/21/sn
Great Falls	45/26/c	29/17/c
Helena	44/30/sh	38/20/sn
Livingston	46/32/c	40/22/sn
Miles City	41/23/c	27/7/c
Missoula	42/30/sh	38/26/sn
Three Forks	43/26/sf	38/16/sn
Twin Bridges	40/23/sh	35/11/sn
Whitehall	43/27/c	38/15/sn

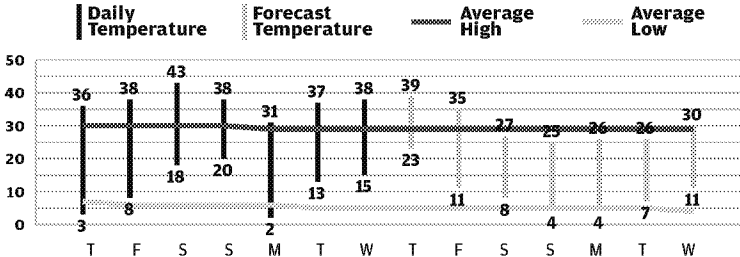
Snowfall

24 hrs through 3 p.m. yest.	0.0"
Month to date	Trace
Normal month to date	3.7"
Season to date	20.8"
Normal season to date	18.2"

Jefferson Snowpack

	Elevation	% Normal
Albro Lake	8300 ft.	111%
Barker Lakes	8250 ft.	111%
Basin Creek	7180 ft.	121%
Bloody Dick	7600 ft.	78%
Calvert Creek	6430 ft.	36%
Clover Meadow	8600 ft.	84%
Mule Creek	8300 ft.	98%
Basin average		94%

TEMPERATURE TRENDS



ALMANAC

Statistics through 3 p.m. yesterday

Temperature	
High/low	38°/15°
Normal high/low	29°/5°
Record high	51° (2004)
Record low	-36° (1932)

Precipitation	
24 hrs through 3 p.m. yest.	0.00"
Month to date (normal)	Trace (0.19")
Year to date (normal)	12.57" (12.45")
Record for date	1.28" (1919)

Weather History

An arctic wind surged deep into the South on Dec. 12, 1962. The temperature at Greensboro, N.C., failed to get above 22 degrees, tying the record for the lowest maximum temperature there in December.

Heating Degree Days

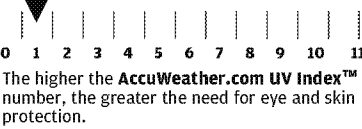
Degree days are an indicator of energy needs. The more the total degree days, the more energy is necessary to heat.	
Yesterday	38
Month to date (normal)	460 (513)
Since July 1 (normal)	3051 (2999)

RealFeel Temperature® Today

humidity, sunshine intensity, cloudiness, precipitation, pressure and elevation on the human body.			
29°	30°	29°	24°
8 a.m.	noon	4 p.m.	8 p.m.

UV Index Today

Shown is the highest value of the day.







Today's Air Quality

Forecast index based on presence of man-made particulates affecting aspects of human health.



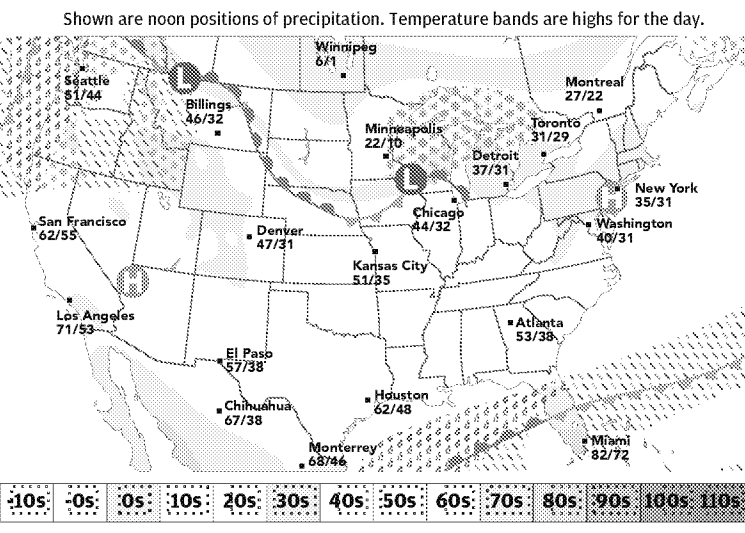
Skywatch

	Rise	Set	
Sun	8:02 a.m.	4:45 p.m.	
Moon	5:25 p.m.	8:25 a.m.	
			
Last Quarter	New Moon	First Quarter	Full Moon
Dec 18	Dec 25	Jan 2	Jan 10

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NATIONAL OUTLOOK

As an Alberta clipper storm spreads snow across the Upper Midwest, much of the balance of the eastern two-thirds of the nation will be dry today. An exception will be rain that lingers over the Gulf of Mexico to part of Florida. While the Southwest will be dry and sunny, a storm will bring rain with mountain snow to the Northwest.



	Today	Friday		Today	Friday
Cold front	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W	Stationary front	Hi/Lo/W	Hi/Lo/W
Albuquerque	50/32/s	57/34/pc	Los Angeles	71/53/pc	71/54/s
Anchorage	32/27/c	34/29/sf	Louisville	50/36/pc	48/42/sh
Atlanta	53/38/pc	47/45/sh	Memphis	55/40/pc	52/40/sh
Atlantic City	39/27/s	51/48/r	Miami	82/72/pc	82/71/pc
Austin	63/41/pc	76/42/s	New Orleans	61/56/r	69/55/t
Baltimore	39/26/s	45/43/r	New York	35/31/s	46/45/r
Birmingham	56/46/pc	54/47/t	Oklahoma City	55/35/pc	57/33/s
Boise	49/37/sh	45/30/sf	Omaha	43/27/pc	46/17/pc
Boston	34/28/s	45/42/pc	Orlando	77/66/sh	79/66/sh
Brownsville	70/54/c	79/53/s	Pensacola	59/51/r	66/54/t
Buffalo	33/29/pc	45/35/pc	Philadelphia	37/30/s	47/45/r
Charleston, SC	55/46/pc	59/56/t	Phoenix	68/47/pc	70/48/s
Charleston, WV	48/30/pc	48/40/c	Portland, ME	32/21/s	40/38/pc
Charlotte	49/34/pc	43/40/r	Portland, OR	53/44/r	50/40/r
Chicago	44/32/c	40/31/c	Raleigh	46/30/pc	47/43/r
Cincinnati	46/32/pc	45/38/sh	Rapid City	40/23/c	38/10/pc
Cleveland	39/32/pc	47/36/c	Reno	57/41/c	53/35/c
Colo. Springs	49/32/s	51/23/pc	Sacramento	61/52/c	60/46/c
Columbus	41/29/pc	44/36/pc	St. Louis	53/32/pc	48/34/c
Dallas	58/41/pc	63/40/s	Salt Lake City	44/36/c	43/35/c
Denver	47/31/s	47/24/pc	San Antonio	64/44/pc	75/47/s
Fairbanks	16/11/pc	15/7/pc	San Diego	68/54/pc	69/57/s
Fargo	10/1/sn	18/-3/c	San Francisco	62/55/c	59/52/c
Honolulu	83/73/pc	82/73/r	Seattle	51/44/r	49/41/r
Houston	62/48/pc	72/48/pc	Spokane	43/33/r	39/29/c
Indianapolis	44/29/pc	45/34/pc	Tampa	78/68/c	76/68/c
Juneau	36/32/r	38/32/sh	Tucson	68/43/s	72/47/s
Las Vegas	61/44/pc	62/46/pc	Wash., DC	40/31/s	45/43/r

National Extremes Yesterday for the 48 contiguous states
High: 90° in Immokalee, FL **Low:** -30° in Brimson, MN

WORLD FORECAST

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Friday Hi/Lo/W	City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Friday Hi/Lo/W
Acapulco	86/75/pc	86/75/pc	Moscow	36/32/c	33/30/c
Amsterdam	43/38/sh	46/41/sh	Nairobi	76/58/t	77/60/pc
Baghdad	67/50/pc	67/47/pc	New Delhi	65/56/r	64/51/r
Beijing	39/21/pc	48/20/pc	Oslo	39/34/c	36/33/sn
Buenos Aires	80/58/s	76/68/pc	Paris	46/42/r	47/43/r
Cairo	68/53/s	68/52/s	Rio de Janeiro	86/76/t	90/75/t
Dublin	47/38/r	45/34/sh	Rome	54/40/pc	59/43/t
Hong Kong	70/61/pc	71/63/s	Singapore	84/76/c	83/76/t
Johannesburg	77/56/s	76/57/t	Stockholm	38/34/r	38/36/sn
Lima	75/66/c	75/67/c	Sydney	71/64/pc	70/65/c
London	49/40/r	47/39/sh	Tokyo	61/42/s	48/43/c
Madrid	47/46/c	59/45/c	Vancouver	48/40/r	47/37/sh


W-weather, s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, l-ice, r-rain, t-thunderstorms, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow

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BUTTE CENTRAL FOOTBALL

Central WR Guido Ossello commits to Griz



MEAGAN THOMPSON, THE MONTANA STANDARD

Butte Central receiver Guido Ossello, who also started a game at quarterback in place of an injured Thomas McGree, is committing his future to the University of Montana.

Ossello committed to the Griz after a season with 698 yards and seven touchdowns

EVAN REIER
406mtsports.com

Part of the reason Guido Ossello is taking his talents to Missoula is family, but part of the reason involves a close friend who's soon to be a close rival.

Butte Central receiver Guido Ossello committed to Montana football team Wednesday after a key season with the Maroons, which saw the future Griz bring in 39 receptions for 698 yards and seven touchdowns in Central's run to the Class A playoffs.

Recruited by Griz tight end coach Jace Schillinger as a

walk-on, Ossello said the decision took time to deliberate, but that Missoula became the choice for the 6'3", 195-pound receiver.

"I like everything," Ossello said. "The atmosphere, the football games. I like Missoula, been there a lot and group up there for a quite a bit. Liking a lot about Missoula helped me make my decision too."

Ossello thanked the staff and community that Central has provided, saying that the Maroons' staff was a key part of his impressive senior season and improvement on the field.

The receiver also said that teammate and Montana State commit Aaron Richards was a big factor in helping the Maroon decide on his future, despite the fact that Richards will be playing for the Griz's biggest rival.

"The coaches gave me a lot," Ossello said. "Aaron Richards, who obviously committed to [Montana State,] is one of my best friends and he made it pretty easy for me. He knew it was going to be a long process, it took me a while to make the decision, but he helped me make it pretty easy."

Central head coach Don Peoples shared Ossello's sentiment of thanks and joy, saying that the receiver's talent was something special for the Maroons.

"We are very proud of Guido," Peoples said. "He is an outstanding young man who will be a great addition to the University of Montana. He had an outstanding season for our football team this fall and emerged as one of

Please see **CENTRAL**, Page B4.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

Jefferson basketball looking to build

MATTHEW KIEWIET
406mtsports.com

BOULDER — Anthony Connole has dedicated a substantial portion of his life to Jefferson Panthers basketball.

The 29-year-old first-year boys varsity coach attended Jefferson 2005-2009 and played basketball under Don Olsen.

Connole coached the JV girls for three seasons before coaching the JV boys for another three seasons, before accepting the head varsity job.

Born in Helena and raised in Clancy, Connole and his senior captains share optimism for the upcoming campaign. The Panthers finished 8-16 last season.

"The goal will be to make young gentlemen out of these guys and hopefully make it to the divisional tournament," says Connole. "I could see us possibly doing that for sure."

"(The goal is) making it to state," says senior captain Avery Stiles. "Well, first make it to divisionals, and then make it to state."

In addition to Stiles, the Panthers also return seniors Jaxson Yanzick and Josiah Williams, who they will lean on for leadership and production.

"I just want to make sure everyone is getting along, make sure everyone is contributing and just be the best team player I can be," Stiles says.

After observing part of a Jefferson practice, it seems like coaching is in Connole's DNA. He is able to get his team to seamlessly transition from one drill to the next. He is able to joke around with his players during a water break, but when it's time to get back down to business everyone falls in line.

"I do feel that being younger helps me connect on their level a little bit better," Cannole says. "The game is changing. These sophomores I actually coached as junior high kids. I've coached a lot of them since first grade so I kind of have that reputation built up with them. I think I can relate to them on a lot better level being a little bit younger and understand where they're coming from on certain questions and concerns."

In addition to coaching, Connole is in his fourth year teaching PE and junior-high math at Clancy Elementary.

"I think being a teacher helps me. My classroom management helps my team management," Connole explains. "It helps me understand when I can joke and when they need to be serious. I think it definitely helps keeping control of practice at times. I can definitely get on them on times, but I can also kind of be there to joke around and take the weight

Please see **JEFFERSON**, Page B4; B5

MONTANA FOOTBALL



BEN ALLAN SMITH MISSOULIAN

Montana wide receiver Samori Toure catches a pass while being guarded by Southeastern Louisiana's Dontrell Smith in a victory on Dec. 7 in Missoula. With the win, the Griz advanced to the FCS quarterfinals and will face Weber State on Friday in Ogden, Utah.

Griz confident despite lack of close games

Narrowest final margin 14 points for Griz in 2019

FRANK GOGOLA
frank.gogola@missoulain.com

MISSOULA — Montana heads into its 14th game of the season without having a single game finish within fewer than a 14-point margin one way or the other.

The Grizzlies' 10 wins have come by 14, 44, 20, 25, 39, 17, 15, 25, 19 and 45 points. Their three losses were by 32, 27 and

34 points, all of which came on the road.

Montana has been in a single-score game in the fourth quarter just three times. The Griz led Eastern Washington by three, Portland State by five and Monmouth by six early in the fourth quarter before scoring to push their lead to double digits the remainder of the way. They haven't had a game within single digits in the final 9:42.

Despite the lack of nail-biter games, Montana coach Bobby Hauck isn't concerned with his team's ability to pull through

should the game against Weber State come down to the wire in the quarterfinals at 8 p.m. MT Friday in Ogden, Utah.

"We practice it all the time," Hauck said. "We do two-minute drills all the time. We practice it nonstop, several times a week. Our guys know how to do it. They're well versed in what they need to do. We've always been good at it. Our clock management's been great. It's been exemplary as a team all year. It's no big deal."

"We don't practice blowing people out, but we seem to be

OK at that."

If there's a close simulation of the end of a game, it's the final two minutes of the first half. Montana has been outscored 52-48 in the final 120 seconds of the opening half but has an edge of 28-7 in the past four games.

In the final minute of the half, the Griz have scored two touchdowns and made two field goals. They've allowed five touchdowns passes in that same 60-second stretch.

One other potential indicator

Please see **GRIZ**, Page B3.

Bobcats took tedious road to FCS distinction

GREG RACHAC
406mtsports.com

BOZEMAN — Kevin Kassiss is having so much fun now that he doesn't want to see any of this come to an end — whenever that may be.

"The hourglass is just about out of sand, and you've got to keep putting sand in if you want to keep playing and if you want to buy yourself some more time," said Kassiss, invoking an analogy for MSU's hunger to play a great game this week in order to advance further in the postseason.

"I just want to win for this group of seniors and these young

guys to establish what's expected here. I want to win for my fellow seniors who have endured this building process. We're at the point now where we can really turn some heads."

Kassiss played as a true freshman and has been there from the beginning of this operation, and has seen the program grow from a four-win outfit in Choate's first season in 2016 to earning the right to host a quarterfinal playoff game Friday night against Austin Peay.

Please see **RODEO**, Page B3.



DEAN HENDRICKSON, FOR 406MTSPORTS.COM

Montana State football coach Jeff Choate celebrates near the end of a 48-14 victory over Montana on Nov. 23 in Bozeman.

STANDINGS & SCHEDULE

EASTERN CONFERENCE											
Atlantic	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf		
Boston	17	6	.739	—	6-4	L-1	10-0	7-6	11-3		
Philadelphia	18	7	.720	—	8-2	W-3	13-0	5-7	12-3		
Toronto	16	8	.667	1½	6-4	L-1	9-3	7-5	10-4		
Brooklyn	13	11	.542	4½	7-3	L-1	7-5	6-6	8-6		
New York	4	20	.167	13½	0-10	L-10	3-10	1-10	2-15		
Southeast	W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf		
Miami	18	6	.750	—	7-3	W-3	11-0	7-6	13-2		
Orlando	11	13	.458	7	5-5	L-2	8-5	3-8	7-9		
Charlotte	11	16	.407	8½	5-5	W-2	6-8	5-8	8-10		
Washington	7	16	.304	10½	2-8	L-3	4-6	3-10	3-7		
Atlanta	6	19	.240	12½	2-8	L-2	3-8	3-11	3-12		
Central	W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf		
Milwaukee	21	3	.875	—	10-0	W-15	11-1	10-2	14-2		
Indiana	16	9	.640	5½	7-3	W-1	10-3	6-6	11-7		
Detroit	10	14	.417	11	6-4	W-2	7-5	3-9	8-13		
Chicago	9	17	.346	13	4-6	W-1	5-9	4-8	6-11		
Cleveland	5	19	.208	16	1-9	L-8	3-10	2-9	4-16		

WESTERN CONFERENCE											
Southwest	W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf		
Dallas	16	7	.696	—	8-2	L-1	8-5	8-2	11-4		
Houston	16	8	.667	½	5-5	W-1	9-3	7-5	9-5		
San Antonio	9	14	.391	7	4-6	W-2	7-6	2-8	6-8		
Memphis	7	16	.304	9	2-8	W-1	3-10	4-6	5-10		
New Orleans	6	18	.250	10½	1-9	L-9	4-9	2-9	5-13		
Northwest	W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf		
Denver	14	8	.636	—	5-5	L-3	8-3	6-5	7-4		
Utah	14	11	.560	1½	4-6	W-1	9-3	5-8	11-7		
Oklahoma City	11	12	.478	3½	6-4	W-3	7-5	4-7	9-8		
Minnesota	10	14	.417	5	2-8	L-6	3-8	7-6	4-11		
Portland	10	15	.400	5½	5-5	W-1	5-6	5-9	6-10		
Pacific	W	L	Pct	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf		
L.A. Lakers	22	3	.880	—	9-1	W-5	10-2	12-1	16-2		
L.A. Clippers	19	7	.731	3½	8-2	W-3	13-1	6-6	11-5		
Phoenix	11	12	.478	10	4-6	W-1	6-7	5-5	7-8		
Sacramento	10	13	.435	11	4-6	W-2	5-4	5-9	6-7		
Golden State	5	20	.200	17	2-8	L-1	2-8	3-12	3-14		

Tuesday's results
Charlotte 114, Washington 107
Miami 135, Atlanta 121, OT
Philadelphia 97, Denver 92
Portland 115, New York 87

Wednesday's results
Houston 116, Cleveland 110
Indiana 122, Boston 117
L.A. Clippers 112, Toronto 92
L.A. Lakers 96, Orlando 87
Charlotte 113, Brooklyn 108
Chicago 136, Atlanta 102

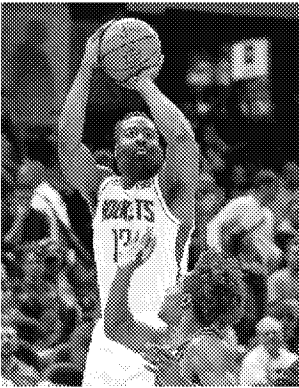
Utah 127, Minnesota 116
Memphis at Phoenix, (n)
New Orleans at Milwaukee, (n)
Okla. City at Sacramento, (n)
New York at Golden State, (n)

Thursday's games
Philadelphia at Boston, 6 p.m.
Cleveland at San Antonio, 6:30 p.m.
Dallas vs. Detroit at Mexico City, 7 p.m.
Portland at Denver, 8:30 p.m.

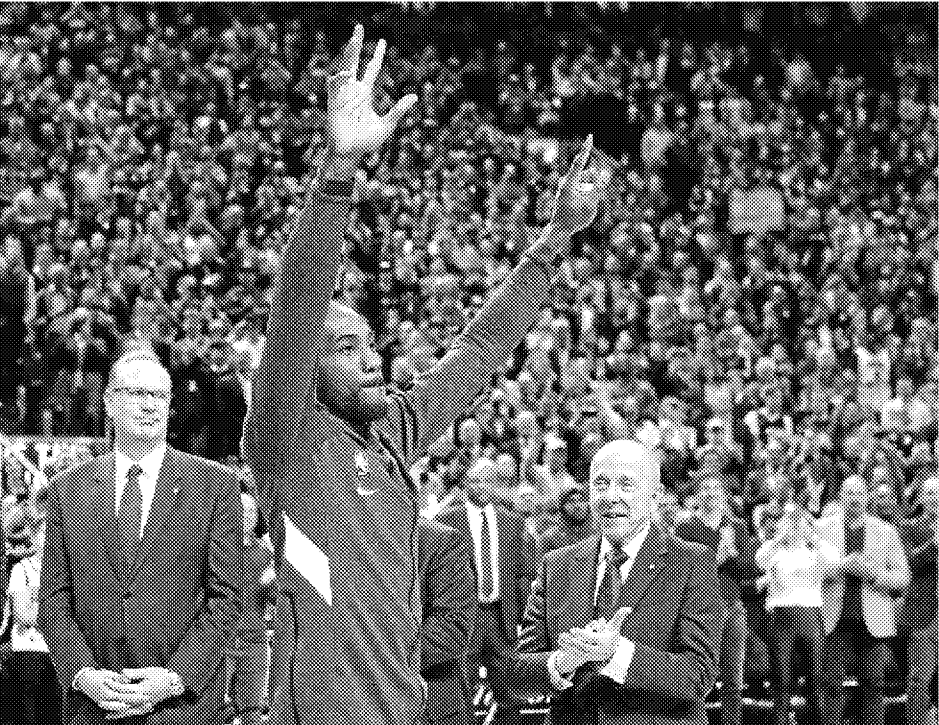
STAT OF THE DAY

55 James Harden scored 20 of his 55 points in the fourth quarter of Houston's victory over the Cavaliers in Cleveland. Harden matched Kyrie Irving's arena record for points in a game as he reached the 50-point mark for the fourth time this season.

— Associated Press



NBA ROUNDUP



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Clippers forward Kawhi Leonard salutes the crowd in Toronto as he receives his 2019 NBA championship ring before Wednesday's game against the Raptors.

After the cheers, Leonard leads Clippers to a blowout

ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORONTO — Kawhi Leonard got his ring, and the Los Angeles Clippers got another win.

Leonard scored 23 points in his return to Toronto, Lou Williams had 18 and the Clippers won their third straight game Wednesday, beating the slumping Raptors 112-92.

Before the game, Leonard received his championship ring from the 2018-19 season, when he helped Toronto beat Golden State in six games for the franchise's first NBA title.

Following a pregame video tribute, Leonard's former teammates, along with coaches and team executives, gathered in a circle at center court. As the sold-out crowd roared with approval, Leonard embraced each player in turn before guard Kyle Lowry presented him with his ring.

After slipping it on, Leonard raised his arms and waved.

Leonard shot 8 for 14 Wednesday, going 2 for 4 from 3-point range and 5 for 5 from the free throw line.

LAKERS 96, MAGIC 87: LeBron James had 25 points, 10 assists and 11 rebounds to help Los Angeles win in Orlando. Anthony Davis had 16 points and 12 rebounds for the Lakers, who have won 13 of 14.

ROCKETS 116, CAVALIERS 110: James Harden scored 55 points and Russell Westbrook added 23 points as Houston won in Cleveland. The Rockets held on despite allowing the Cavs to score 24 straight points in the second half.

PACERS 122, CELTICS 117: Malcolm Brogdon scored 29 points and Aaron Holiday scored 11 of his 18 points

in the fourth quarter to help Indiana rally past visiting Boston despite a 44-point night from Celtics guard Kemba Walker.

HORNETS 113, NETS 108: Devonte' Graham scored a career-high 40 points as Charlotte rallied from a 20-point deficit to beat host Brooklyn. Graham had 27 points in the second half for the Hornets.

JAZZ 127, TIMBERWOLVES 116: Donovan Mitchell had 30 points and six assists and Joe Ingles scored a season-high 23 as Utah handed host Minnesota its sixth straight loss.

BULLS 136, HAWKS 102: Zach LaVine scored 35 points in three quarters and Lauri Markkanen added 22 as Chicago snapped a three-game losing streak with a home victory over Atlanta.

AROUND THE NBA

Key trade date comes Sunday

It's probably not on your calendar, but NBA Christmas starts Sunday.

On Dec. 15 every year, players who signed free agent contracts in the past offseason become eligible to be traded. And after all the activity this past summer, that means a huge influx of available players are entering the market Sunday — roughly 150, about one-third of all rostered players in the NBA, per ESPN.

There hasn't been a trade in the league since the mid-July blockbuster sending Russell Westbrook to the Rockets and Chris Paul to the Thunder, but that figures to change with the lifting of the free agent trade moratorium and as teams start to sort themselves out as we approach the one-third mark of the season.

Butler wants more from Heat

MIAMI — Jimmy Butler says he will celebrate success when he sees it. Even at 18-6, he's not sure the Miami Heat are there yet.

After a lopsided loss to the Boston Celtics, an 11-point deficit to the Washington Wizards and the need to go to overtime against the struggling Chicago Bulls and Atlanta Hawks over the past four games, Butler said the Heat stride remains a bit too uneven for his taste.

"It's great whenever the end result is a win," he said, with the Heat taking a three-game winning streak into Friday night's game against the Lakers. "I think everybody knows we can score the ball decently well. Win or lose, I don't think we played our best defensive ball."

BRIEFLY

BUCKS: Giannis Antetokounmpo was held out of Wednesday's game against New Orleans because of soreness in his right quadriceps.

— Wire reports

STANDINGS & SCHEDULE

EASTERN CONFERENCE											
Atlantic	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away	Div	
Boston	32	20	6	6	46	109	81	12-1-5	8-5-1	7-3-3	
Montreal	32	15	11	6	36	104	105	8-7-3	7-4-3	4-4-2	
Buffalo	32	15	11	6	36	101	97	9-3-3	6-8-3	6-4-1	
Florida	30	15	10	5	35	106	101	9-5-2	6-5-3	3-3-1	
Toronto	32	15	13	4	34	104	104	7-4-4	8-9-0	5-5-1	
Tampa Bay	29	15	11	3	33	105	93	7-6-1	8-5-2	8-2-0	
Ottawa	32	13	17	2	28	86	100	8-5-0	5-12-2	5-4-1	
Detroit	32	7	22	3	17	67	129	4-11-1	3-11-2	2-6-0	
Metropolitan	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away	Div	
Washington	33	23	5	5	51	120	95	9-3-4	14-2-1	3-2-1	
N.Y. Islanders	29	20	7	2	42	86	69	12-2-1	8-5-1	6-2-1	
Philadelphia	30	17	8	5	39	96	85	10-2-4	7-6-1	6-2-2	
Carolina	31	19	11	1	39	103	85	10-5-0	9-6-1	2-6-1	
Pittsburgh	31	17	10	4	38	104	85	12-4-2	5-6-2	4-2-3	
N.Y. Rangers	30	15	12	3	33	94	94	8-6-2	7-6-1	6-2-0	
Columbus	30	12	14	4	28	76	93	8-8-1	4-6-3	4-5-1	
New Jersey	30	9	16	5	23	74	111	4-7-5	5-9-0	3-3-1	

WESTERN CONFERENCE											
Central	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away	Div	
St. Louis	32	18	8	6	42	94	88	8-4-3	10-4-3	6-1-1	
Colorado	30	19	8	3	41	111	84	8-3-2	11-5-1	5-4-0	
Winnipeg	31	19	10	2	40	92	83	9-5-1	10-5-1	5-2-1	
Dallas	32	18	11	3	39	84	76	12-4-1	6-7-2	6-4-2	
Nashville	29	14	10	5	33	98	93	9-5-4	5-5-1	5-3-0	
Minnesota	31	14	12	5	33	92	101	7-1-3	7-11-2	2-6-1	
Chicago	31	12	13	6	30	84	98	7-7-3	5-6-3	2-4-2	
Pacific	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away	Div	
Arizona	33	18	11	4	40	91	80	7-7-1	11-4-3	6-3-3	
Edmonton	33	18	11	4	40	100	99	8-5-3	10-6-1	8-3-1	
Calgary	33	17	12	4	38	91	98	9-3-2	8-9-2	5-5-1	
Vegas	33	16	12	5	37	98	94	8-6-3	8-6-2	7-3-1	
Vancouver	31	15	12	4	34	104	95	7-4-3	8-8-1	4-3-1	
San Jose	33	15	16	2	32	89	114	9-7-0	6-9-2	7-5-0	
Anaheim	31	13	14	4	30	82	92	8-6-2	5-8-2	4-4-1	
Los Angeles	32	12	18	2	26	80	103	10-6-1	2-12-1	4-10-1	

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Tuesday's results
Tampa Bay 2, Florida 1
Montreal 4, Pittsburgh 1
Buffalo 5, St. Louis 2
Winnipeg 5, Detroit 1
Nashville 3, San Jose 1
Anaheim 3, Minnesota 2, SO
Dallas 2, New Jersey 0
Calgary 5, Arizona 2
Carolina 6, Edmonton 3
Toronto 4, Vancouver 1
Vegas 5, Chicago 1
Los Angeles 3, N.Y. Rangers 1

Wednesday's results
Washington 3, Boston 2

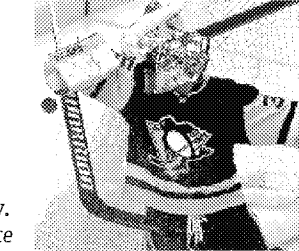
Montreal 3, Ottawa 2, OT
Philadelphia at Colorado, (n)

Thursday's games
Boston at Tampa Bay, 5 p.m.
Nashville at Buffalo, 5 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Florida, 5 p.m.
Columbus at Pittsburgh, 5 p.m.
Winnipeg at Detroit, 5:30 p.m.
Vegas at St. Louis, 6 p.m.
Edmonton at Minnesota, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Calgary, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Arizona, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Anaheim, 8 p.m.
Carolina at Vancouver, 8 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at San Jose, 8:30 p.m.

STAT OF THE DAY

82 Penguins goalie Tristan Jarry stopped 82 consecutive shots — the longest in the league this season — during his franchise-record scoreless run of 177:15 that ended Tuesday.

— Tribune News Service



NHL ROUNDUP

Capitals take showdown with Bruins

WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — T.J. Oshie scored twice in under four minutes and John Carlson got the go-ahead goal to extend the Washington Capitals' longstanding domination of the Boston Bruins with a 3-2 victory Wednesday in a showdown between the NHL's two best teams.

The Capitals have won 16 of their past 17 games against the Bruins. Boston has lost four in a row with three of those defeats coming in regulation.

Carlson's blast past Jaroslav Halak in the third period fired up a crowd quieted by Sean Kuraly's deflection goal minutes earlier. Earlier, fans in Capitals red and Bruins black and gold all got into it when Boston captain Zdeno Chara and Washington forward Tom Wilson threw down the gloves in a heavy-weight fight in the first.

This was a heavyweight bout in every sense of the term. These teams enter with the most points in the league, and Capitals captain Alex Ovechkin trailed



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Capitals winger T.J. Oshie celebrates his second goal of the second period against the Bruins on Wednesday in Washington. Oshie had just one goal in his previous 10 games.

only David Pastrnak in the goal-scoring race.

Pastrnak ripped a perfect shot over Braden Holtby's left shoulder midway through the first for his league-best 26th of the season. It looked like the

Bruins had a two-goal lead on a Patrice Bergeron power-play goal, but Capitals coach Todd Reirden challenged for offside and video review showed Jake DeBrusk was into the zone just before the puck.

CANADIENS 3, SENATORS 2 (OT): Cayden Primeau made 35 saves for his first NHL win, and Montreal beat visiting Ottawa. Ben Chiarot scored the winner on a pass from Max Domi on a 2-on-1 at 1:11 of overtime.

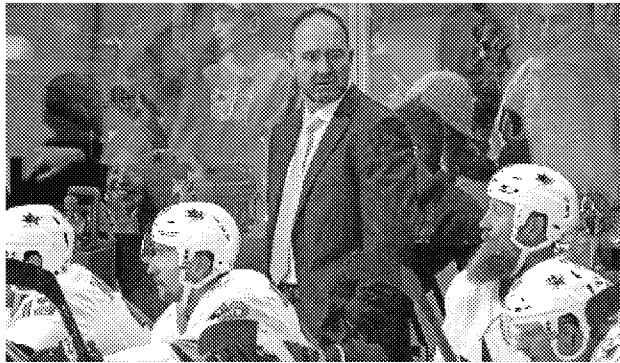
AROUND THE LEAGUE

Slumping Sharks fire coach DeBoer

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Pete DeBoer, the only coach to take the Sharks to a Stanley Cup Final, has been fired.

Doug Wilson announced the change after the Sharks returned home from a road trip on a five-game losing streak. San Jose also fired three of DeBoer's assistants and made assistant Bob Boughner the interim coach.

DeBoer had a record of 198-129-34 in 361 games over four-plus seasons with the Sharks, who made the Stanley Cup Final in 2016. The Sharks, though, have started this season 15-16-2 and entered Wednesday in sixth place in the Pacific Di-



An 0-3-1 road trip in which the Sharks scored just five goals sealed coach Pete DeBoer's fate in San Jose.

vision, five points out of a playoff spot.

The Sharks made the playoffs in each of DeBoer's four seasons, and the team also advanced to the Western Conference Final last season before they lost to eventual Cup champion St. Louis.

Guy Lapointe battling cancer

The Montreal Canadiens announced Wednesday that former defenseman, Hall

Loss of Penny creates chance for Seahawks' C.J. Proise

TIM BOOTH

AP Sports Writer

RENTON, Wash. — It only took a couple of weeks of seeing what the combo of Chris Carson and Rashaad Penny could produce for the optimism over the Seattle Seahawks' postseason chances to rise.

And in one play last week against the Los Angeles Rams, that one-two punch was gone.

Penny went down with an ACL injury on his first offensive touch of the game, an injury that will require surgery and ended his season. While the Seahawks believe they have the options in place to replace Penny's production, there will be a change going forward from a game-plan that seemed to be working well for Seattle.

"He has had a big impact the last few weeks and we've really liked his contribution," coach Pete Carroll said. "You miss him. A guy like that, you just don't replace him. You go to the next guy and he brings what he has."

The loss of Penny will likely mean two significant changes. First, the balance of carries should shift back to Carson. Through the first 10 games, Carson was averaging 20 carries per contest.

But in the two games coming out of Seattle's bye week where Penny became a much more significant part of the rushing offense, Carson's carries dropped to an average of 15 per game. There was a conscious effort by Seattle to get the ball to Penny and give Carson a bit of a break heading toward the postseason.

Griz

From B1

of late-game success is looking at the fourth quarter. The Griz have outscored their opponents 116-54 in the final frame, meaning they're not too prone to falling off late in games. Weber State has posted a much-closer edge of 93-74.

Montana senior defensive tackle Jesse Sims echoed Hauck in not being too worried about the defense coming through with a late stop or the offense posting a late score if needed.

"We work on fourth-quarter drills every day in practice," he said. "They're all close scenarios. If it's something we end up in, it's definitely not going to be something new to us."

Weber seeks redemption

Unlike Montana's blowout wins and losses, Weber State has trailed by more than seven points only twice this season.

The Wildcats hadn't trailed by seven-plus points until their 10th game of the year they went down 14-3 against Montana in the final minute of the first quarter. They fell down 35-3 because of special teams miscues, short fields for Montana and quick-strike offense by the Griz.

"We get a rematch with someone we just played a couple weeks ago, and it's exciting because quite frankly we didn't play very good that game," Weber State coach Jay Hill said. "It's rare in life that you get re-dos, and we get one."

After losing to Montana, Weber State rebounded with a 38-10 win over Idaho State. Last week, the Wildcats got down 17-9 against Kennesaw State's triple-option attack late in the second quarter and rallied with 17 consecutive points on their way to a 26-20 home win.

"To get a little shock last week, I thought, was good," Hill said. "To play such a physical, hard-nosed option team was, I thought, a great challenge for us in the second round."

As the scene shifts from Missoula to Ogden, Hauck knows not to expect the Griz to catch so many breaks again.

"I think there's no two games ever evolve or play out alike, so you just kind of roll with what transpires," Hauck said. "I don't even think it's productive to go into a game and plan for anything like that."

"I think it comes down to if you're going to have success this time of year, you have to go execute, you have to play well. Everybody's good. So, we need improvement. That's our goal every week, but it's important this time of year to go and play well because if you don't play well, you're not going to win."

Record watch

Montana senior linebacker Dante Olson is 11 tackles away from breaking Montana's career tackles record.

The Medford, Oregon, native has 383 tackles, while former strong safety Vince Huntsberger holds the record of 393 from 1998-2001. Huntsberger unofficially had 469 tackles, but playoff stats weren't counted by the NCAA until 2002.

Comparing them as starters, Huntsberger unofficially averaged 8.53 tackles in 55 starts. While Olson has played in 47 games, he's started just 24 and collected 316 tackles in those games, an average on 13.17 per start. Count all of Olson games, and his average is still 8.15 tackles despite his first 23 games coming primarily on special teams.

Olson holds the top two single-season tackle records. He had 151 in 2018 to break Kendrick Van Ackeren's record of 130 set in 2015. He has 165 this year with at least one more game to go.

On offense, wide receiver Samori Toure has hauled in 1,410 receiving yards this year, the third most in a single season in school history. He needs 60 yards to pass Joe Douglass (1,469 in 1996) for second and 70 yards to pass Marc Mariani (1,479 in 2009) for first.

Frank Gogola covers Griz football and prep sports for the Missoulian. Follow him on Twitter @FrankGogola or email him at frank.gogola@missoulian.com.

SPORTSON TV

Schedule subject to change and/or blackouts

Thursday, December 12
COLLEGE BASKETBALL (MEN'S)

6 p.m.
ESPN2 — Iowa at Iowa State

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

5 p.m.
ESPN — College Football Awards: From Atlanta

GOLF

5 p.m.
GOLF — Presidents Cup: U.S. vs. International Team, Day 2, Melbourne, Australia

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL (BOY'S)

6 p.m.
ESPN2 — Dematia (Md.) at Montverde (Fla.)

NBA

6 p.m.
TNT — Philadelphia at Boston

8:30 p.m.
TNT — Portland at Denver

NFL

6:20 p.m.
FOX — NY Jets at Baltimore

NFLN — NY Jets at Baltimore

RODEO

8 p.m.
CBSN — PRCA: National Finals, Las Vegas

FOOTBALL

NFL

AFC

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	10	3	0	.769	338	168
Buffalo	9	4	0	.692	274	212
N.Y. Jets	5	8	0	.385	226	301
Miami	3	10	0	.231	221	399
South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	8	5	0	.615	317	309
Tennessee	8	5	0	.615	318	255
Indianapolis	6	7	0	.462	296	295
Jacksonville	4	9	0	.308	230	337
North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
x-Baltimore	11	2	0	.846	430	236
Pittsburgh	8	5	0	.615	259	242
Cleveland	6	7	0	.462	273	291
Cincinnati	1	12	0	.077	198	325
West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-Kansas City	9	4	0	.692	371	281
Oakland	6	7	0	.462	258	366
Denver	5	8	0	.385	236	261
L.A. Chargers	5	8	0	.385	289	251

NFC

East	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Dallas	6	7	0	.462	334	267
Philadelphia	6	7	0	.462	297	301
Washington	3	10	0	.231	188	310
N.Y. Giants	2	11	0	.154	247	362
South	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
y-New Orleans	10	3	0	.769	344	296
Tampa Bay	6	7	0	.462	378	381
Carolina	5	8	0	.385	300	360
Atlanta	4	9	0	.308	300	343
North	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	10	3	0	.769	309	270
Minnesota	9	4	0	.692	339	249
Chicago	7	6	0	.538	243	232
Detroit	3	9	1	.269	287	335
West	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	11	2	0	.846	397	229
Seattle	10	3	0	.769	341	262
L.A. Rams	8	5	0	.615	311	321
Arizona	3	9	1	.269	272	374

x-clinched playoff spot
y-clinched division

Today's games
N.Y. Jets at Baltimore, 6:20 p.m.

Sunday, Dec. 15
Chicago at Green Bay, 11 a.m.

New England at Cincinnati, 11 a.m.

Denver at Tennessee, 11 a.m.

Denver at Kansas City, 11 a.m.

Miami at N.Y. Giants, 11 a.m.

Philadelphia at Washington, 11 a.m.

Tampa Bay at Detroit, 11 a.m.

Seattle at Carolina, 11 a.m.

Jacksonville at Oakland, 2:05 p.m.

Cleveland at Arizona, 2:05 p.m.

Minnesota at L.A. Chargers, 2:05 p.m.

L.A. Rams at Dallas, 2:25 p.m.

Atlanta at San Francisco, 2:25 p.m.

Buffalo at Pittsburgh, 6:20 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 16
Indianapolis at New Orleans, 6:15 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 21
Houston at Tampa Bay, 11 a.m.

Buffalo at New England, 2:30 p.m.

L.A. Rams at San Francisco, 6:15 p.m.

Leaders

Week 14
AFC

Quarterbacks

Att **Com** **Yds** **TD** **Int**

Rivers, LAC 462 304 3748 20 15

Brady, NE 527 316 3437 19 7

Watson, Hou 436 295 3425 24 9

Washington, KC 392 253 3266 21 3

Mayfield, Cle 431 255 3109 15 16

Carr, Oak 401 284 3106 18 8

Dalton, Cin 413 248 2577 10 9

Allen, Buf 405 242 2737 17 8

Jackson, Bal 347 230 2677 28 6

Winshew, Jac 371 228 2594 15 5

Rushers

Att **Yds** **Avg** **LG** **TD**

Chubb, Cle 253 1281 5.1 38 7

Henry, Ten 250 1243 5.0 74 13

Jacobs, Oak 218 1061 4.9 51 7

Fournette, Jac 235 1039 4.4 81 3

Jackson, Bal 151 1017 6.7 47 7

Hyde, Hou 108 926 4.7 38 4

Maclin, Cle 205 900 4.4 63 5

Ingram, Bal 181 887 4.9 53 9

Lindsay, Den 180 817 4.5 40 6

Mixon, Cin 206 789 3.8 30 3

Receivers

No **Yds** **Avg** **LG** **TD**

Hopkins, Hou 93 1023 11.0 43 7

Edelman, NE 90 1010 11.2 44 6

Landry, Cle	69	995	14.4	65	5
Keice, KC	75	989	13.2	47	4
Clark, Jac	67	956	14.3	69	8
Allen, LAC	81	947	11.7	45	6
Sutton, Den	59	940	15.9	37	6
Brown, Buf	64	908	14.2	50	5
D.Parker, Mia	55	882	16.0	50	6
Waller, Oak	72	880	12.2	48	3

Punters

No **Yds** **LG** **Avg**

Long, LAC 38 1811 60 47.7

Kern, Ten 64 3039 70 47.5

Gillan, Cle 52 2403 71 46.2

Berry, Pit 57 2630 69 46.1

Cole, Oak 55 2531 60 46.0

Cooke, Jac 63 2887 61 45.8

Edwards, NYJ 72 3298 63 45.8

Sanchez, Ind 47 2124 60 45.2

Haack, Mia 56 2515 62 44.9

Bailey, NE 70 3126 65 44.7

Punt Returners

No **Yds** **Avg** **Long** **TD**

Carter, Hou 19 179 9.4 23 0

Olsewski, NE 20 179 9.0 22 0

Spencer, Den 22 174 7.9 42 0

Roberts, Buf 26 194 7.5 22 0

D.Thomas, Bal 21 131 6.9 20 0

Erickson, Cin 19 113 5.9 15 0

Westbrook, Jac 18 102 5.6 43 0

King, LAC 12 97 5.4 58 1

Kickoff Returners

No **Yds** **Avg** **LG** **TD**

Wilson, Cin 20 625 31.3 92 1

Roberts, Buf 21 562 26.8 66 0

Grant, Mia 23 578 25.1 101 1

Hardman, KC 22 510 23.2 34 0

T.Davis, Mia 19 411 21.6 52 0

Boiden, NE 17 360 21.2 28 0

Scoring Touchdowns

TD **Rush** **Rec** **Ret** **PG**

Henry, Ten 15 13 2 0 90

Ingram, Bal 12 9 3 0 72

Eskier, LAC 11 3 8 0 66

Allen, Buf 8 8 0 0 48

Clark, Jac 8 0 8 0 48

Watson, Hou 7 0 7 0 48

6 tied 7 0 7 0 42

Kicking

PAT **FG** **LG** **Pts**

Butker, KC 39/41 28/32 54 123

Tucker, Bal 47/48 23/24 51 106

Boswell, Pit 25/25 26/28 51 103

Lambo, Jac 14/15 26/27 53 92

Seibert, Cle 25/28 22/25 53 91

McManus, Den 21/22 23/27 53 90

Bullock, Cin 19/19 21/25 48 82

Fairbairn, Hou 33/38 16/21 54 81

Haushka, Buf 26/28 18/24 51 80

Samuels, Mia 19/20 18/23 54 73

Vinateri, Ind 22/28 17/25 55 73

NFC

Quarterbacks

Att **Com** **Yds** **TD** **Int**

Prescott, Dal 496 325 4122 24 11

Winston, TB 512 314 4115 26 13

Goff, LAR 484 305 3712 15 14

Ryan, Atl 481 321 3559 22 12

Central

From:BT

the top receivers in the state. His size, speed, and ability to go get the ball was special. We have a full reel of amazing catches and big plays.”

Ossello grew up a Griz fan and threw out a couple of names that he grew up watching and drawing inspiration from, one of which includes a familial connection.

“Obviously [wide receiver] Marc Mariani,” Ossello said. “I remember him from a young age... My cousin also played there for a couple years before he got hurt, Ryan Burke from Billings Central. He was a pretty good player there and he’s my biggest role model I would say.”

Ossello says he plans on a commitment ceremony in February. Ossello is Montana’s 12th known Class of 2020 commit and 6th known in-state commitment.

Jefferson

From:BT

off of their shoulders.”

Jefferson kicks off the season Friday and Saturday at the Three Forks Tournament. Without revealing too much of a game plan, Connole did say to expect a more up-tempo attack on the offensive end, and a — hopefully — unpredictable defense.

“I do have some tendencies

I will probably lean on, which consist of switching up defenses regularly and maybe pushing the basketball a little bit more this year,” Connole says.

Jefferson girls preview

First-year girls basketball coach Sarah Layng is hoping to build upon the progress the Panthers made last season. Coming off a 7-9 campaign, Jefferson is returning many of its core pieces.

“We’re not trying to reinvent

the wheel because we have a lot of returning players,” says Layng. “I think that we just want to get better at a lot of things that we were doing in the past, maybe change a few things up. We might add some things but not really discard a lot, you know, just get better at what we’re doing. We should capitalize on our strengths, I think.”

Not only do the Panthers return

Please see JEFFERSON, Page B5

The Montana Standard presents...

2019 FOOTBALL CHALLENGE

TEAM MONTANA STANDARD

Anita Fasbender

The Montana Standard

WK 15

Baltimore

Green Bay

Pittsburgh

New England

Seattle

Tennessee

NY Giants

Philadelphia

Last Week's Record

10-6

Kansas City

Tampa Bay

Cleveland

Oakland

LA Rams

San Francisco

Minnesota

New Orleans

Jalen Whitley

The Montana Standard

WK 15

Baltimore

Chicago

Buffalo

New England

Seattle

Houston

Miami

Philadelphia

Last Week's Record

10-6

Kansas City

Tampa Bay

Cleveland

Oakland

LA Rams

San Francisco

Minnesota

New Orleans

Mike Smith

The Montana Standard

WK 15

Baltimore

Green Bay

Buffalo

New England

Seattle

Houston

NY Giants

Philadelphia

Last Week's Record

10-6

Kansas City

Tampa Bay

Arizona

Oakland

Dallas

San Francisco

Minnesota

New Orleans

Makayla Wall

The Montana Standard

WK 15

Baltimore

Green Bay

Buffalo

New England

Seattle

Tennessee

NY Giants

Philadelphia

Last Week's Record

11-5

Kansas City

Tampa Bay

Cleveland

Oakland

LA Rams

San Francisco

Minnesota

New Orleans

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PLAY IN PRINT –

• Find entry forms in the paper 2 times per week. Fill out your picks and mail/return to The Montana Standard. Entries must be received by deadline.

• One weekly winner (the person who selects the most winning teams of the selected week) will receive a gift card to a participating sponsor location.

• Grand prizes: Winners will receive gift cards from participating sponsors. (Weekly winners are entered into a drawing, which will be picked at random at conclusion of contest.)

PLAY ONLINE –

• Register online and pick your teams. Visit mtstandard.com/footballchallenge for more information and to get signed up.

• There are no weekly prizes offered.

• Grand prizes: Winners will receive gift cards from participating sponsors (weekly winners are entered into a drawing, which will be picked at random at conclusion of contest).

• Bonus prizes: One bonus winner will also be drawn and receive gift cards from participating sponsors. (Drawn at random from all eligible users who participate in the contest.)

One entry per person per week. Must be 18 years or older to play. No purchase necessary. No photo copies allowed for print entries. For more rules, visit mtstandard.com/app/extras/contestrules.pdf.

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Houston

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Philadelphia

Last Week's Record

9-7

Kansas City

Detroit

Cleveland

Oakland

Dallas

San Francisco

Minnesota

New Orleans

Robbie Dee

Dee Motors

WK 15

Baltimore

Green Bay

Buffalo

New England

Seattle

Tennessee

Miami

Philadelphia

Last Week's Record

10-6

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Tampa Bay

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Last Week's Record

11-5

Kansas City

Tampa Bay

Cleveland

Oakland

LA Rams

San Francisco

Minnesota

New Orleans

Jeremy Zarr

Yates Body Shop

WK 15

Baltimore

Green Bay

Buffalo

New England

Seattle

Tennessee

NY Giants

Philadelphia

Last Week's Record

12-4

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Tampa Bay

Cleveland

Oakland

LA Rams

San Francisco

Minnesota

New Orleans

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The Montana Standard presents...

2019 FOOTBALL CHALLENGE

WEEK 16

Circle the team names that you pick to win.

Saturday, Dec. 21

Houston at Tampa Bay

Buffalo at New England

LA Rams at San Francisco

Sunday, Dec. 22

Pittsburgh at NY Jets

New Orleans at Tennessee

Carolina at Indianapolis

Cincinnati at Miami

Baltimore at Cleveland

Jacksonville at Atlanta

NY Giants at Washington

Detroit at Denver

Oakland at LA Chargers

Arizona at Seattle

Dallas at Philadelphia

Kansas City at Chicago

Monday, Dec. 23

Green Bay Minnesota

Tie Breaker

Final score of Green Bay/ Minnesota game: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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☐ Non-subscriber

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WIN WEEKLY!

Submit your weekly picks via this entry form by deadline each week. The person with the most correct answers will win a prize. All weekly winners will also be entered into a grand prize drawing that will be held at the conclusion of the contest. In the event of a tie, scores will be used to determine the winner. Entries must be received by the Standard no later than the day prior to the games starting by noon. Print winners will be selected for Weeks 1 through 21.

SEND ENTRIES TO:

The Montana Standard

c/o Football Challenge

25 W. Granite St.

Butte, MT 59701

One entry per person per week. Must be 18 years or older to play. No purchase necessary. No photo copies allowed for print entries. For more rules, visit mtstandard.com/app/extras/contestrules.pdf.

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Jefferson

From B4

some quality players, but they will also be familiar with their new head coach. Before taking over the head position, Layng was the assistant from 2014-2018.

“We lost two starters, I believe, two seniors,” Layng says. “And we have, returning, four seniors. We have a pretty solid group of juniors, and then we are returning

two solid sophomores, too. So, we have a lot of returning girls, actually.”

Among those returners is Rachel Van Blaricom, the Panthers leading scorer last season. Layng says the Panthers will lean on her for leadership and production.

“Our leading scorer from last year is returning,” she says. “She’s a great player who puts a lot of time in. She really understands the game. She’s very strong and she just plays hard all the time.

Her work ethic is just incredible.”

During her time as the assistant coach, Layng was able to develop a unique relationship with her players. She was able to get to know them on a more personal level.

“It gives you a little bit more of an opportunity, I think, to maybe establish more of a personable level of a relationship at times,” she explains. “Sometimes players need somebody to talk to or open up to that — they don’t want to as much with the head coach. So

the assistant coach has a little bit more freedom.”

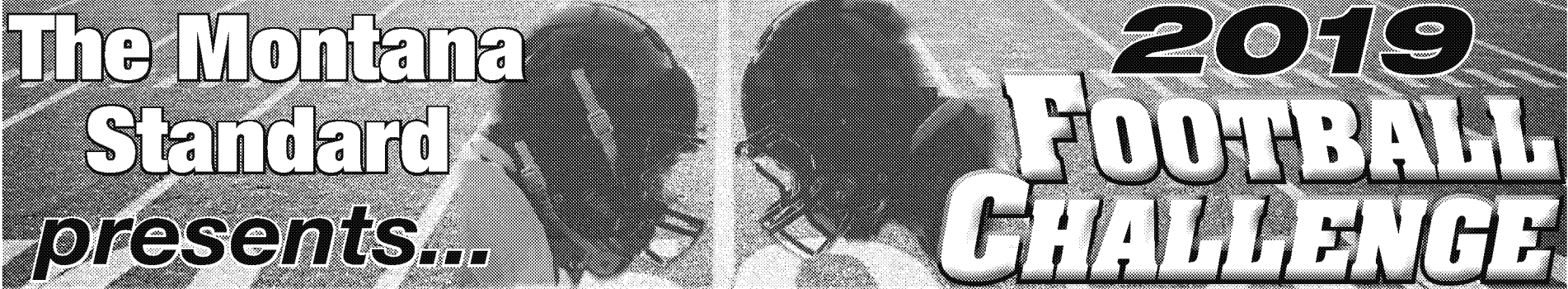
Layng was the girls head coach at Sheridan High School for nine years before she and her husband, Clint, moved back to Jefferson. Her father Dick Norden was also a longtime coach at Jefferson.

“My dad was the head coach for 40 years, so it’s kind of in the family — in the blood, I guess,” says Sarah. “So, it’s something I have a passion for and enjoy. I enjoy the game the basketball and being

around all the players. It’s a great group of girls. So, when the opening came I was excited about it.”

The Panthers open their season at the Three Forks Tournament on Friday and Saturday.

Matthew Kiewiet covers high school and community sports for the Independent Record and 406mtsports.com. Email him at matthew.kiewiet@406mtsports.com or follow him on Twitter @IRmattkiewiet.



Weekly Leader Board

- 1. Les Schwab Tire Center 138-70
- 2. Makayla Wall 136-72
- 3. Arie Grey 135-73
- Dee Motors 135-73
- Mick O'Brien 135-73
- 4. Mike Smith 134-74
- 5. Jalen Whitley 133-75
- 6. Chuck Morrell 132-76
- 7. Don Peoples 131-77
- Yates Body Shop 131-77
- 8. Cost Plus 130-78
- 9. Anita Fasbender 129-79
- 10. Lydia's Supper Club 121-87
- 11. Comm. Hospital of Anaconda 118-90

Football Challenge Winner - Week #14
Brian Ojala • Butte, MT

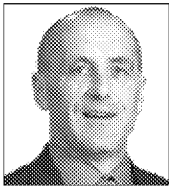


Coach Morrell
Montana Tech
WK 15

Baltimore
Green Bay
Buffalo
New England
Seattle
Tennessee
NY Giants
Washington

Kansas City
Detroit
Arizona
Jacksonville
LA Rams
San Francisco
Minnesota
New Orleans

Last Week's Record 11-5



Coach Peoples
Butte Central
WK 15

Baltimore
Green Bay
Pittsburgh
New England
Seattle
Houston
NY Giants
Philadelphia

Kansas City
Detroit
Arizona
Oakland
Dallas
San Francisco
Minnesota
New Orleans

Last Week's Record 10-6



Coach Grey
Butte High
WK 15

Baltimore
Green Bay
Buffalo
New England
Seattle
Tennessee
NY Giants
Philadelphia

Kansas City
Detroit
Cleveland
Oakland
LA Rams
San Francisco
Minnesota
New Orleans

Last Week's Record 8-8

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Zach Carlos
Les Schwab
WK 15

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Houston
NY Giants
Philadelphia

Kansas City
Tampa Bay
Cleveland
Oakland
Dallas
San Francisco
LA Chargers
New Orleans

Last Week's Record 9-7

Mike Rudolph
Cost Plus
WK 15

Baltimore
Green Bay
Buffalo
New England
Seattle
Houston
Miami
Philadelphia

Kansas City
Tampa Bay
Arizona
Oakland
Dallas
San Francisco
Minnesota
New Orleans

Last Week's Record 12-4

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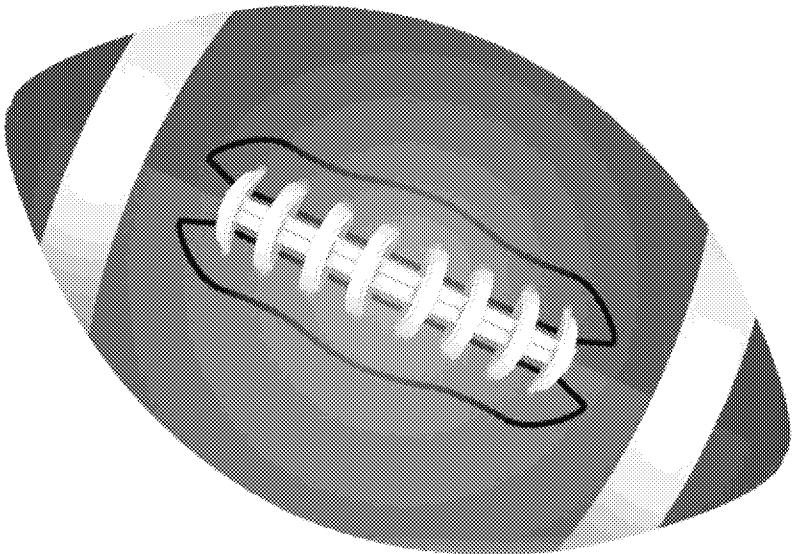
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Last Week's Record 7-9



Play online at:
mtstandard.com/footballchallenge

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<div><div></div><div>DOW</div><div>27,911.30 +29.58</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>NASDAQ</div><div>8,654.05 +37.87</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>S&P 500</div><div>3,141.63 +9.11</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>10-YR T-NOTE</div><div>1.79% -0.4</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>30-YR T-BOND</div><div>2.22% -.03</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>CRUDE OIL</div><div>\$58.76 -.48</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>GOLD</div><div>\$1,469.40 +6.80</div></div>	<div><div></div><div>EURO</div><div>\$1.1140 +.0044</div></div>
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Money&Markets

Today

Holiday sales update?

Costco Wholesale serves up its first-quarter results today. Wall Street predicts the warehouse club operator's earnings and revenue increased in the September-November quarter versus a year earlier. Beyond earnings, investors will be listening for an update on Costco's latest membership tally and holiday shopping season outlook.

Inflation bellwether

Economists project that U.S. wholesale prices continued to increase last month. They expect the Labor Department will report today that its producer price index rose 0.2% in November. That would follow a 0.4% gain in October, when a surge in energy costs helped give the index its highest reading in six months. The index measures price pressures before they reach consumers.

Producer price index

seasonally adjusted percent change

Source: FactSet

Spotlight on Oracle

Wall Street expects another solid quarterly report card from Oracle. Financial analysts predict the business software maker's earnings and revenue increased in the September-November quarter from a year earlier. That would echo its results in the June-August quarter. Oracle co-CEO Mark Hurd died in October, weeks after taking a leave of absence for health-related reasons.

ORCL

Operating EPS: \$0.75 (Q2:19), \$0.89 (est. Q2:20)

Price-earnings ratio: 18 (based on past 12-month results)

Dividend: \$0.96 Div. yield: 1.7%

Source: FactSet

Commodities Energy prices were mostly lower, with the exception of heating oil prices, which rose. Crude oil prices fell less than 1%. Gold and silver prices rose.	FUELS	CLOSE	PVS.	%CH.	%YTD
	Crude Oil (bbl)	58.76	59.24	-0.81	+29.4
	Ethanol (gal)	1.32	1.34	-1.35	+4.6
	Heating Oil (gal)	1.93	1.97	-1.87	+14.4
	METALS	CLOSE	PVS.	%CH.	%YTD
	Gold (oz)	1469.40	1462.60	+0.46	+15.0
	Silver (oz)	16.74	16.60	+0.89	+8.5
	Platinum (oz)	939.50	922.60	+1.83	+18.0
	SPOT PRICES	CLOSE	PVS.		
	Molybdenum (LME, metric ton)	20,063	19,732		
	AGRICULTURE	CLOSE	PVS.	%CH.	%YTD
	Coffee (lb)	1.35	1.33	+1.43	+32.7
	Corn (bu)	3.58	3.63	-1.51	-4.6
	Cotton (lb)	0.66	0.66	-0.08	-8.8
	SPOT PRICES	CLOSE	PVS.	%CH.	%YTD
	Lumber (1,000 bd ft)	396.30	392.70	+0.92	+19.6
	Orange Juice (lb)	0.98	0.99	-0.61	-21.5
	Soybeans (bu)	8.94	9.01	-0.86	+1.3
	SPOT PRICES	CLOSE	PVS.	%CH.	%YTD
	Wheat (bu)	5.31	5.35	-0.75	+5.9
	(Previous and change figures reflect current contract.)				

Live Cattle

40,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

YESTERDAY: Sales: 45,890 Open interest: 377,113, ▼ -543.00

MONTH	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
Dec 19	119.90	120.65	119.90	120.57	+7.0
Feb 20	124.55	125.45	124.47	125.32	+7.5
Apr 20	125.00	125.95	124.90	125.87	+8.2
Jun 20	117.20	117.97	117.17	117.92	+6.7
Aug 20	114.82	115.50	114.80	115.42	+5.2
Oct 20	116.30	116.85	116.15	116.77	+4.7

Feeder Cattle

50,000 lbs.- cents per lb.

YESTERDAY: Sales: 12,070 Open interest: 48,327, ▼ -367.00

MONTH	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
Jan 20	142.05	142.97	141.52	142.77	+1.12
Mar 20	142.82	143.90	142.35	143.67	+1.15
Apr 20	144.65	145.65	144.27	145.47	+1.00
May 20	145.70	146.50	145.30	146.32	+8.2
Aug 20	150.57	151.15	150.17	150.95	+5.3
Sep 20	151.45	151.50	151.17	151.50	+6.5

Interest rates

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 1.79% on Wednesday. Yields affect rates on mortgages and other consumer loans.

TREASURIES	LAST	PVS	NET CHG	WK	MO	QTR	1YR AGO
3-month T-bill	1.56	1.56	...	▲	▼	▼	2.39
6-month T-bill	1.56	1.55	+0.01	—	▼	▼	2.55
52-wk T-bill	1.55	1.56	-0.01	—	▼	▼	2.69
2-year T-note	1.60	1.64	-0.04	▲	▼	▼	2.76
5-year T-note	1.63	1.70	-0.07	▲	▼	▼	2.79
7-year T-note	1.73	1.77	-0.04	▲	▼	▲	2.82
10-year T-note	1.79	1.83	-0.04	▲	▼	▲	2.88
30-year T-bond	2.22	2.25	-0.03	▼	▼	▲	3.13

BONDS	LAST	PVS	NET CHG	WK	MO	QTR	1YR AGO
Barclays Glob Agg Bd	1.45	1.45	...	▲	▲	▲	2.13
Barclays USAggregate	2.34	2.33	+0.01	▲	▼	▲	3.44
Barclays US Corp	2.89	2.88	+0.01	▲	▼	▼	4.31
Barclays US High Yield	5.84	5.85	-0.01	▼	▲	▲	7.38
Moodys AAA Corp Idx	3.00	3.00	...	▲	▲	▼	4.08
10-Yr. TIPS	.09	.14	-0.05	▼	▼	▼	1.05

PRIME RATE FUNDS	LAST	FED FUNDS
LAST 4.75	1.63	
6 MO AGO 5.50	2.38	
1 YR AGO 5.25	2.13	

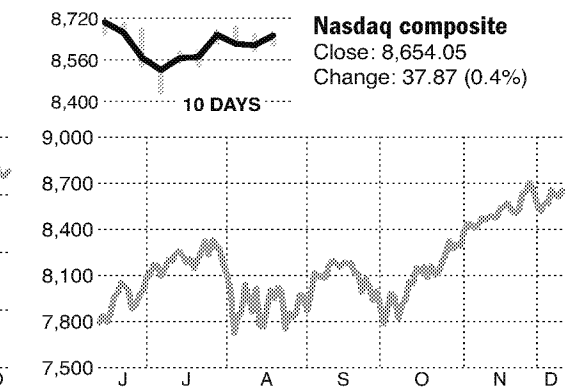
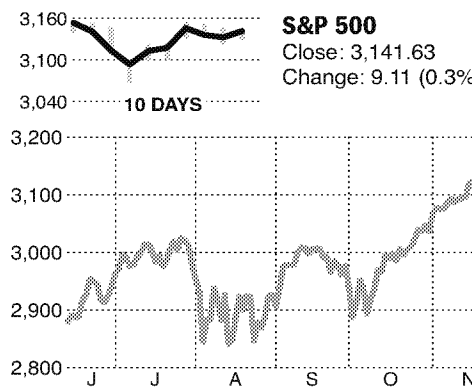
Most Actively Traded Stocks (worth \$1 or more)

NYSE

COMPANY	VOL (00's)	LAST	CHG
Danaher Corp	531,903	149.67	+8.3
Bank of America	430,564	33.64	+1.1
PG&E Corp	416,131	12.14	-1.8
Gen Electric	365,093	10.97	-0.4
Freeport McMoRan	333,448	12.84	+5.6
Ford Motor	332,036	9.11	+0.4
Itau Unibanco Hldg	253,524	8.59	-0.6
Urer Technologies	232,752	28.42	+5.3
Aurora Cannabis Inc	228,455	2.45	-0.7
Macy's Inc	219,709	15.70	-0.4

NASDAQ

COMPANY	VOL (00's)	LAST	CHG
Comcast Corp A	375,777	42.07	-7.0
XP Inc	346,311	34.46	...
Adv Micro Dev	316,773	39.47	+8.3
Micron Tech	220,600	49.26	+1.80
Intel Corp	200,511	57.07	+4.8
Apple Inc	196,734	270.77	+2.29
Microsoft Corp	188,510	151.70	+5.7
Cisco Syst	164,352	44.28	+1.8
Caesars Entertain	157,590	13.02	...
Proteostasis Tehrep	148,374	4.26	+2.9



	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG.	%CHG.	WK	MO	QTR	YTD
DOW	27925.50	27801.80	27911.30	+29.58	+0.11%	▲	▲	▲	+19.65%
DOW Trans.	10687.03	10618.28	10678.89	+49.02	+0.46%	▲	▼	▼	+16.45%
DOW Util.	855.26	849.57	855.01	+2.43	+0.28%	▼	▼	▼	+19.93%
NYSE Comp.	13590.74	13547.68	13579.92	+34.61	+0.26%	▲	▲	▲	+19.39%
NASDAQ	8658.48	8622.36	8654.05	+37.87	+0.44%	▲	▲	▲	+30.42%
S&P 500	3143.98	3133.21	3141.63	+9.11	+0.29%	▲	▲	▲	+25.32%
S&P 400	2017.50	2009.02	2015.75	+4.00	+0.20%	▲	▲	▲	+21.21%
Wilshire 5000	32022.03	31916.21	32001.44	+79.49	+0.25%	▲	▲	▲	+24.28%
Russell 2000	1634.43	1626.74	1631.93	+0.22	+0.01%	▲	▲	▲	+21.01%

	NYSE	NASD
Vol. (in mil.)	3,145	1,891
Pvs. Volume	3,215	2,010
Advanced	1697	1665
Declined	966	1297
New Highs	109	129
New Lows	12	53

Company Spotlight

GameStop outlook disappoints

GameStop shares suffered their worst loss since June after the video game retailer cut its profit forecast for the year and reported a surprise quarterly loss. The Grapevine, Texas-based chain blamed an "unprecedented decline" in hardware sales as consumers delay purchases and await the release of next-generation consoles. "With console makers set to introduce new and innovative gaming consoles late next year, we anticipate this trend to continue until the fourth quarter of 2020," said GameStop CEO George Sherman. GameStop lost \$83.4 million in the third quarter, far worse than Wall Street anticipated. It now expects same-store sales to fall by up to 19% in the fiscal year ending in January. Its shares fell 15% Wednesday to \$5.53, a two-month low.

GameStop (GME)	Wednesday's close: \$5.53, -0.98	Price change	1-yr	3-yr*	5-yr*	
52-WEEK RANGE	\$3 - \$17	Price-earnings ratio: Lost money (Based on past 12-month results)	GME	-57.3%	-40.3	-30.4
AP			*annualized		Source: FactSet	

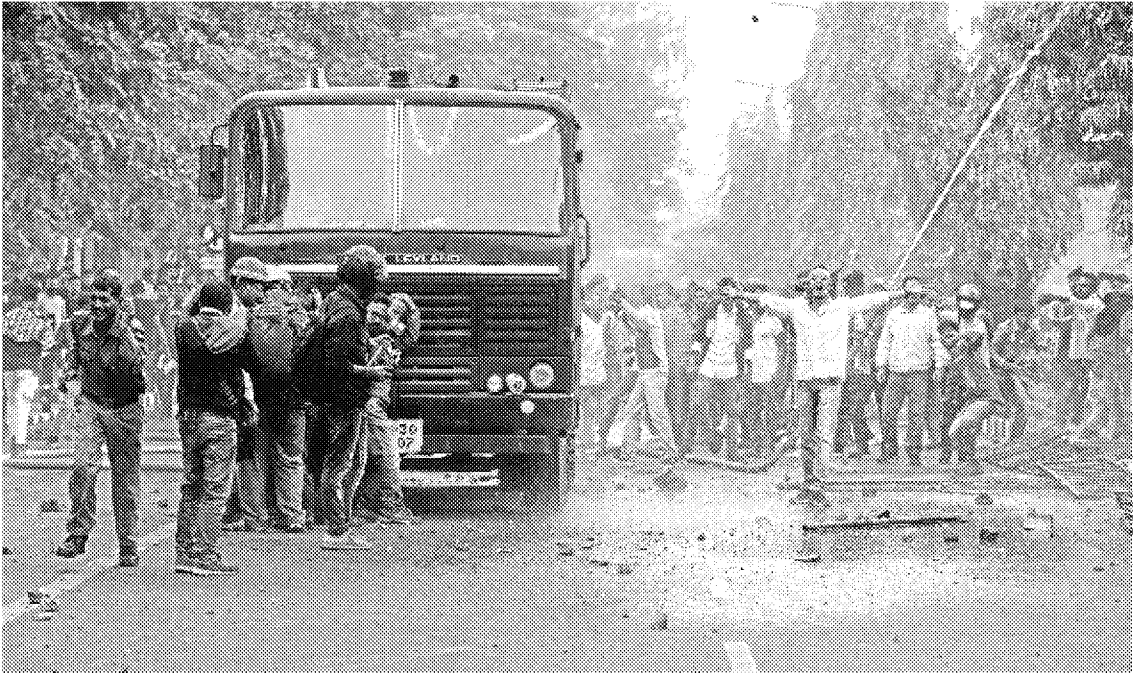
Stocks

Wall Street had modest gains Wednesday after the Federal Reserve left interest rates unchanged and signaled that it expects to leave them alone in 2020. Investor jitters over whether the U.S. and China will be able to avert a new escalation in their trade war has made for choppy trading this week, pulling major indexes lower. Wall Street is hoping that both sides can avoid a new round of tariffs scheduled to kick in Sunday.

Ollie's Bargain Outlet	OLLI	Schlumberger	SLB	GameStop	GME
Close: \$69.33▲9.03 or 15.0%	Close: \$38.40▲1.06 or 2.8%	Close: \$53.40▼0.98 or -1.51%			
The retailer named John Swygert its new CEO and reported surprisingly good third-quarter profit and revenue.	The oilfield services company said Simon Ayat is stepping down as chief financial officer and will be replaced by Stephane Biguet.	The video game retailer cut its profit forecast for the year after reporting a surprising loss in the third quarter.			
Vol.: 8.7m (8.1x avg.)	PE: 32.5	Vol.: 15.2m (1.3x avg.)	PE: ...	Vol.: 19.5m (3.9x avg.)	PE: ...
Mkt. Cap: \$4.4 b	Yield: ...	Mkt. Cap: \$53.2 b	Yield: 5.2%	Mkt. Cap: \$500.2 m	Yield: 27.5%

Regional Stocks																
52-WEEK								1YR								
HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG.	%RTN	PE	DIV		NAME	TICKER	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG.	%RTN	PE	DIV
132.13	101.36	120.78	+1.3	+8.1	dd	2.58		MicronT	MU	51.39	28.39	49.26	+1.80	+31.6	6	...
75.54	55.39	75.73	+1.18	+22.5	20	2.00		Microsoft	MSFT	152.50	93.96	151.70	+5.7	+46.2	30	2.04f
207.50	121.47	198.56	+6.4	+46.2	66	1.92f		MinTech	MTX	63.75	45.26	55.79	+8.8	+8.5	13	0.20
51.18	43.10	44.20	-5.3	-1.2	18	1.45		Mondelez	MDLZ	56.72	38.79	53.93	-1.3	+26.1	14	1.14
83.49	64.65	68.96	-1.0	-5.9	16	3.48		Navistar	NVL	39.52	21.32	32.33	+4.1	+11.2	9	...
69.24	38.45	53.87	+1.40	+23.1	23	...		NobleEngy	NAB	28.40	17.11	22.03	+2.4	-6.3	dd	0.48
10.56	7.41	9.11	+0.4	+9.0	7	0.60a		NokiaCp	NOK	6.65	3.33	3.47	+0.5	-36.1	...	0.19e
14.68	8.43	12.84	+5.6	+12.6	8	0.20		noWestCp	NWE	76.72	57.28	71.21	-3.0	+14.4	19	2.30
98.76	59.98	97.59	+8.8	+53.4	27	2.28		OcciPet	OXY	68.83	37.25	37.54	-0.3	-39.2	29	3.16
11.84	6.77	10.97	-0.4	+63.7	dd	0.04		Oracle	ORCL	60.50	42.40	56.31	+4.9	+22.2	58	0.96
56.40	36.42	51.58	-1.66	+43.2	18	1.96		Orange	ORAN	16.80	14.57	14.77	+0.5	-5.8	...	0.41e
2.14	0.96	1.47	-0.3	+2.7	dd	...		PG&E Cp	PCG	25.19	3.55	12.14	-1.8	-56.7	18	...
45.47	36.84	43.80	+1.3	+1.9	22	1.16		PPL Corp	PCP	34.66	27.31	33.76	-0.4	+13.7	15	1.65
46.18	36.87	46.29	+1.4	+27.8	...	2.89e		PepsiCo	PEP	140.45	105.03	137.10	+8.3	+21.7	15	3.82
225.40	151.70	221.19	-69	+25.8	9	5.00f		Pfizer	PFE	44.56	33.97	38.22	-2.6	-9.5	15	1.44
327.76	255.09	329.52	+5.95	+14.0	23	5.76		PhilipMor	PM	92.74	64.67	84.84	+9.4	+4.7	17	4.68
24.09	15.93	20.07	-1.3	-7.9	6	0.70f		PortGE	POR	58.43	43.73	55.14	+0.3	+13.6	23	1.54
32.71	16.97	23.38	+5.59	-21.5	12	0.72		ProctGam	PG	125.77	86.74	124.66	+3.9	+38.3	29	2.98
41.40	30.17	37.57	+3.8	-0.1	13	1.50		Prudentl	PRU	106.40	75.61	92.42	-0.3	+12.7	10	4.00
3.07	1.21	2.86	+0.6	+15.4	dd	0.01e		Qualcom	QCOM	94.11	49.10	86.99	+2.88	+56.1	dd	2.48
64.80	35.74	41.59	+8.2	-28.3	dd	2.80f		RityInco	O	82.17	59.93	74.58	-1.03	+19.0	42	2.71f
162.20	100.80	149.77	+3.7	+42.4	33	3.09		RioTinto	RIO	64.02	46.32	56.91	+8.5	+35.5	...	2.27e
58.88	37.73	50.10	+0.4	-10.7	12	1.40		S&PMOETF	SPY	315.48	233.76	314.42	+8.9	+21.1	q	4.13e
239.31	158.09	212.00	-3.90	+28.5	21	5.44		Schlmborg	SLB	48.88	30.65	38.40	+1.06	-9.0	23	2.00
30.12	22.87	28.86	+1.0	+10.8	...	0.84e		Schwab	SCHW	50.97	34.58	49.60	+4.1	+19.7	19	0.68
183.12	123.48	176.01	+1.97	+28.2	20	3.60f		SiriusXM	SIRI	7.00	5.23	6.87	-0.2	+11.3	31	0.05f
13.72	9.22	11.58	+0.5	+6.3	...	0.14e		SouthnCo	SO	63.29	42.50	60.69	+3.6	+36.0	29	2.48f
45.96	37.66	41.98	+7.7	+4.1	q	0.87e		SwiGas	SWX	92.94	72.68	75.60	+3.8	-4.8	23	2.18
44.84	38.04	43.68	+6.3	+11.6	q	0.59e		Starbucks	SBUX	99.72	60.42	86.59	+5.5	+34.1	38	1.64f
59.59	42.86	57.07	+4.8	+25.0	19	1.26		Sysco	SYT	83.43	59.44	82.88	+3.5	+30.3	33	1.80f
152.95	105.94	133.76	-1.5	+17.6	14	6.48		Target	TGT	127.97	60.15	125.80	+0.3	+90.3	21	2.64
135.78	91.11	134.18	-3.2	+33.3	14	3.20		TevaPhrm	TEVA	20.21	6.07	9.56	+0.7	-49.4	dd	0.73e
144.98	121.00	140.98	-99	-0.8	23	3.80		3MCo	MMM	219.75	150.58	168.74	+1.08	-11.4	23	5.76
44.82	28.30	42.70	+6.1	+31.8	29	1.04		Timken	TKT	54.52	33.98	54.33	+8.9	+45.6	21	1.12
156.98	90.55	153.42	+2.26	+55.6	25	1.60f		Total SA	TOT	58.82	47.70	52.68	+1.4	+2.2	...	2.71e
85.29	59.05	83.14	-98	+22.0	18	1.94		Travelers	TRV	155.09	111.08	134.63	-9.1	+12.2	15	3.28f
143.50	106.59	136.90	-78	+24.3	34	4.12		TriContl	TRY	28.59	21.83	28.57	+2.6	+18.3	q	1.86e
21.50	14.62	20.20	+0.8	+27.8	20	1.00		Tuppwrre	TUP	38.63	7.28	7.36	-0.2	-74.1	dd	1.08
5.47	2.85	4.42	+1.5	+48.4	34	...		UnionPac	UNP	180.54	128.08	174.45	+2.60	+18.7	22	3.88
37.48	25.30	31.24	+0.3	+18.8	22	0.52		UPS B	UPS	125.31	89.89	116.79	-1.75	+15.8	20	3.84
3.69	1.76	1.89	+0.1	-12.8	...	...		US Bancorp	USB	60.58	43.14	59.25	-7.0	+18.9	14	1.68f
121.22	85.90	117.66	+1.18	+34.2	26	2.20		VanEGold	GDx	30.96	19.90	27.71	+5.8	+35.5	q	0.06e
29.65	22.73	28.92	+0.6	+14.5	24	0.83f		VerizonCm	VZ	61.34	52.28	61.08	-1.5	+10.0	8	2.46
18.93	11.06	12.61	+0.2	-20.3	dd	0.20		WalMart	WMT	125.38	85.78	119.00	-1.14	+30.4	68	2.12f
17.27	9.06	12.24	+3.2	-10.2	87	0.60		WellsFargo	WFC	54.75	43.02	53.17	-5.2	+11.1	12	2.04
221.93	169.04	194.72	-23	+9.0	29	5.00f		XP Inc n	XP	...	...	34.46	...	...	...	...
114.46	81.66	111.72	+6.8	+20.1	68	2.16		XcelEngy	XEL	66.05	47.70	62.16	+3.6	+19.1	27	1.62
89.53	70.89	88.98	-12	+18.5	33	2.44f		XeroxHd	XRX	39.47	18.58	36.52	-2.4	+50.2	cc	1.00
51.16	37.76	49.09	-20	+26.3	11	1.76		YumBrnds	YUM	119.72	86.40	99.44	+2.0	+11.3	36	1.68

NATION&WORLD/ADVICE



ANAPAM NATH, ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIA’S PARLIAMENT PASSES CONTENTIOUS CITIZENSHIP BILL

Indian lawmakers approved legislation on Wednesday granting citizenship to non-Muslims who migrated illegally from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. Critics of the government said the legislation undermines the country’s secular constitution, as protests against the law intensified in some parts of the country. The Citizenship Amendment Bill seeks to grant Indian nationality to Buddhists, Christians, Hindus, Jains, Parsis and Sikhs who fled the three countries before 2015. Above, protesters shout slogans as they face security officers while demonstrating against the bill Wednesday in Gauhati, India.

ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT

Panel begins move toward vote

Dems not expected to amend charges; vote expected for Thursday

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The House Judiciary Committee took the first steps Wednesday evening toward voting on articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump, beginning a marathon two-day session to consider the historic charges.

The Judiciary meeting’s purpose was to mark up, or amend, the two articles of impeachment that Democrats introduced Tuesday. Those articles charge Trump with abuse of power and obstruction of Congress related to his dealings with Ukraine.

The articles aren’t expected to be changed, though, as Democrats are unlikely to accept any amendments proposed by Republicans unified against Trump’s impeachment.

Democrats have already agreed to the language, which span only nine pages and say that Trump acted “corruptly” and “betrayed the nation” when he asked Ukraine to investigate Joe Biden and the 2016 U.S. election. Hamstrung in the minority, Republicans wouldn’t have the votes to make changes without support from at least some Democrats.

The Wednesday evening session of the 41-member panel was expected to last several hours, with opening statements from lawmakers on both sides of the aisle. Votes won’t come until Thursday,

when the committee will consider amendments and likely hold a final vote to send the articles to the House floor.

House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler opened the prime-time hearing to make a final argument for impeachment and to urge his Republican colleagues to reconsider.

“When his time has passed, when his grip on our politics is gone, when our country returns, as surely it will, to calmer times and stronger leadership, history will look back on our actions here today,” Nadler said of Trump. “How would you be remembered?”

The top Republican on the panel, Georgia Rep. Doug Collins, argued that Democrats are impeaching the president because they think they can’t beat him in the 2020 election.

DEAR ABBY

Hotheaded woman is dunking man’s toothbrush in the toilet

DEAR ABBY: I have shared a friendship for 40 years with a woman who is known for having a quick temper. Although



DEAR ABBY

I have been on the receiving end of her anger many times, we manage to maintain our relationship.

She lives across the country now and, unfortunately, suffers from a major debilitating illness. She lives with a man she argues with often, in his small apartment. They struggle financially, and she recently confided that when they argue, she dunks his toothbrush in the toilet to get even. Obviously, it is without his knowledge.

I have never met him, but he is very nice to me when I call. I want to tell him what my friend has been doing. I feel he needs to know the health risks he’s facing when he brushes his teeth.

Of course, if I do, I know I’ll incur her wrath once again as she’ll know I ratted her out. And he will undoubtedly evict her from the apartment. She doesn’t have the finances to get her own place, and the eviction may

result in her becoming homeless. I’m struggling with which is worse: his health risk or her homelessness.

So far, I have kept my mouth shut, but each day I know he is brushing his teeth with bacteria. Should I continue to remain silent? — YUCK FACTOR IN THE DESERT

DEAR YUCK FACTOR: While dipping his toothbrush in the toilet may not kill him, it could make him sick. Tell him what has been going on. If your friendship with the woman ends, so be it.

DEAR ABBY: I’m a 34-year-old single mother of a 7-year-old son who wants me to get married. I’m not dating anyone, so marriage is nowhere in the near future.

I know my son’s wish for me to be married is due to the absence of his “father” in his life and his desire to have a dad. I have technically been single for more than 10 years. I dated a lot over the years but haven’t during the last two years, instead focusing on my mental, emotional and physical well-being in addition to securing a decent career path, which I’m just a week into.

I have contemplated dating for months, even prior to my son saying anything. Being an only parent, I have very little free time, and dating can be very disappointing. I don’t have time to waste. Should I get back out there for the sake of my son or not? — DATING FOR TWO IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR DATING: Should you date because your son wants a father? No. You should date because you meet someone whose values and interests are similar to your own, someone you think is worth getting to know better.

You are starting a new career, and in time you will meet eligible men. In the meantime, because your son needs a masculine influence in his life, consider having him spend time with male family members. If that’s not possible, contact Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and try to arrange a mentor for him. The website is bbs.org.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DIGEST

New cancer drugs show some promise

SAN ANTONIO — Doctors on Wednesday reported unusually good results from tests of two experimental drugs in women with an aggressive form of breast cancer that had spread widely and resisted many previous treatments.

One drug showed particular ability to reach tumors in the brain, which are notoriously tough to treat. The other pairs a sort of homing device for cancer cells with a payload of chemotherapy that’s released when it reaches its target.

“It’s a guided missile. It’s able to bring the chemotherapy directly to the cancer cell,” said the study leader, Dr. Ian Krop of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

Results were disclosed at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium and in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Watchdog caught in political crossfire

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department’s internal watchdog was caught in a political tug of war Wednesday as Republican and Democratic senators used his report on the origins of Russia investigation to back their views that it was an important and legitimate probe or a badly bungled farce.

Inspector General Michael Horowitz testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee about his findings this week that while the FBI had a legitimate basis to launch the Russia investigation and was not motivated by political bias in doing so, there were major flaws in how that investigation was conducted.

Horowitz pointed out the absence of evidence for some of the most sensational claims by President Donald Trump and his

supporters: that the investigation into ties between his 2016 campaign and Russia was opened for political reasons or that agents had infiltrated his election bid.

BRIEFLY

DEFENSE BILL: The House on Wednesday passed its annual defense policy measure, which combined a \$738 billion Pentagon price tag with legislation to provide federal employees with 12 weeks of paid parental leave. Negotiators also endorsed Trump’s call for a new “space force.”

BOEING: After the first crash of a Boeing 737 Max last year, federal safety officials estimated that there could be 15 more fatal crashes of the Max over the next few decades if Boeing didn’t fix a critical automated flight-control system. The FAA analysis was disclosed Wednesday before the House Transportation Committee.

SETTLEMENT: Harvey Weinstein and his former film studio’s board reached a tentative \$25 million settlement that would end almost every sexual misconduct lawsuit brought against him and his company, The New York Times reported Wednesday.

INTEREST RATES: The Federal Reserve left its benchmark interest rate alone Wednesday and signaled that it expects to keep low rates unchanged through next year. Its benchmark rate will remain in a low range of 1.5% to 1.75%.

THIRD ELECTION: Israel’s deadlocked parliament on Wednesday failed to meet a midnight deadline to form a coalition government, triggering an unprecedented third election in a 12-month period while giving scandal-plagued Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu a break as he fights to save his political career.

— Associated Press

Vaccinations and chemo can mix -- on case by case basis

DEAR DR. ROACH: My sister is getting chemotherapy for breast cancer, and her 4-year-old is due for his shots. She’s worried that he won’t be able to get them all because of her treatment. Our parents are unsure if they



DR. KEITH ROACH

should go ahead and get the shingles vaccine since they are around her often. What are the guidelines on shots for close contacts of cancer patients? — K.C.T.

ANSWER: It’s much more dangerous for your sister to be exposed to a person with a disease than a person who’s recently been vaccinated, since the likelihood of a vaccine shedding from a vaccinated person to a person with cancer is very small. In general, your sister’s child should get his scheduled vaccines.

Inactivated vaccines such as the flu shot, pneumonia vaccine, and meningitis vaccines are always safe to use for caregivers of cancer patients, or those with immune system disease of other kinds. Live vaccines need to be looked at individually.

The measles, mumps, and rubella (MMR) vaccine is a live, attenuated vaccine. Fortunately, there has never been a case of disease transmitted to another person from the current MMR vaccine. A 4-year-old would

normally get MMR, and her child should.

Varicella (chickenpox) is a live vaccine, and expert groups recommend giving the vaccine to family members. Transmission of the vaccine strain is rare, but if the child should develop a rash after the vaccine, he should not have close contact with the person with cancer until the rash is gone.

The oral polio vaccine should not be given, but the inactivated polio vaccine injection is safe. Only the safe IPV has been used in North America for decades.

The rotavirus vaccine is also live, but transmission to contacts has not been demonstrated, so expert groups recommend giving this vaccine as well to household contacts of people with cancer (rotavirus vaccine is typically given at 2, 4, and sometimes 6 months of age).

Of course, guidelines never take the place of specific advice given by a person’s doctor, who knows their health condition.

I hope your sister does well with her chemotherapy. Dealing with breast cancer while being responsible for a small child must be an incredible challenge.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu or send mail to 628 Virginia Dr., Orlando, FL 32803.

DAILY HOROSCOPE

ARIES (March 21 to April 19)

This is a busy, active day for you; nevertheless, it’s a poor day to make important decisions or shop. Enjoy short trips and schmoozing with others, but save your money.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20)

Postpone important financial decisions until tomorrow. Restrict your spending today to food, gas and entertainment. That’s it. You’ll be glad you did.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20)

You might feel a bit more excitable or more emotional than usual today. This is the letdown after having the Full Moon in your sign. Take it easy and relax.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22)

Continue to work alone or behind the scenes, because you do want to be productive now. If shopping, restrict your spending to food, gas and entertainment.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22)

This is a lovely day to schmooze with others, especially friends and members of groups to which you might belong. However, agree to nothing important. Spend money on only food and gas.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)

Personal details about your private life are made public today. When talking to others, especially bosses, do not volunteer for any-

thing. Agree to nothing important. Just tread water.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)

Although you want to explore new places and meet new faces, this is a poor day to book a trip. Nevertheless, it’s an excellent day to enjoy the company of others and to learn something new.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)

Postpone important decisions about shared property, inheritances and insurance issues until tomorrow. Today, restrict your spending to food, gas and entertainment. Be smart.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)

You have to accommodate oth-

ers today and go more than halfway when dealing with them. This is not a big deal. Be cooperative. (Confine spending to food and gas.)

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)

Deal with business as usual today, but do not generate anything new. Do not volunteer for anything or agree to anything important. Don’t shop.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)

This is a creative day! Because you find it easy to think outside the box, you have original, exciting ideas. It’s a great day to socialize! If shopping, limit your spending to food, gas and enter-

tainment.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20)

Today you might want to coocon at home and enjoy relaxing in a familiar environment. However, do not shop for your home. Restrict your spending to food, gas and entertainment.

IF YOU WERE BORN TODAY: You are a perfectionist who is intelligent, intuitive and confident. You are virtuous and always smooth and charming. This year you’re wrapping up many things you began nine years ago by letting go of what is no longer relevant and moving on to something new and different. You are lightening your load to get ready for new beginnings!

AROUND COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Ewing: Hoyas' roster is full 'for now'



WASHINGTON — It was hard not to do a double-take when Georgetown basketball coach Patrick Ewing answered a question Wednesday about whether his full roster will be available for the team's next game by saying, "As of now, yes." Ewing and the Hoyas are in a bit of an "as of now" world at the moment. Saturday's game against former Big East rival Syracuse will be Georgetown's first at home since legal matters for three players came to light after the school announced last week that one, leading reserve Josh LeBlanc, would be transferring. Also leaving, for unspecified reasons, was starting point guard James Akinjo, who was not connected to the cases involving LeBlanc and two players remaining on the team, Myron Gardner and Galen Alexander.

Tennessee vs. Memphis, take 2

Saturday's Tennessee-Memphis basketball game in Knoxville should be fun. It's the second of a three-game series. The first ended with Tennessee's Rick Barnes and Memphis' Penny Hardaway sparring in their respective postgame press conference. The teams play next season in Nashville. After that? "I don't know where it goes from here," Barnes said this week.

Guard wants out of Kansas State



Shaun Williams — Wire reports

Shaun Williams is looking for a new place to call home. The Kansas State sophomore guard entered his name into the NCAA transfer portal. "My recruitment is 100% back open," Williams tweeted. In his five appearances this season, Williams averaged 9.1 minutes, 3.6 points, 1.2 rebounds and 1.2 assists per game.

WEDNESDAY'S SCORES

EAST	MIDWEST
Colgate 66, Cornell 58	Kansas St. 86, Alabama St. 41
Dartmouth 77, Maine 44	Arkansas St. at Missouri St., (n)
Marshall 86, Bluefield St. 50	Michigan at Illinois, (n)
Mass.-Lowell 72, NJIT 66	SOUTHWEST
Merrimack 69, Army 60	Lamar 73, Southern University at New Orleans 56
Rutgers 72, Wisconsin 65	Tulsa 69, Boise St. 56
St. Peter's 86, Fairleigh Dickinson 70	Winthrop at TCU, (n)
Yale 83, UMass 80, OT	Texas-Arlington at Houston, (n)
SOUTH	FAR WEST
Belmont 105, Carson-Newman 56	Arizona 99, Omaha 49
Furman 90, North Greenville 65	Fresno St. at California, (n)
NC Central 109, Christendom 28	N. Dakota St. at CS Northridge, (n)
SC State 90, UNC Asheville 85, OT	Prairie View at Arizona St., (n)
VMI 78, Ferrum 60	San Diego at Cal St.-Fullerton, (n)
Troy at Jacksonville St., (n)	Thursday's Top 25 Schedule
Chattanooga at Virginia Tech, (n)	No games scheduled.

STAT OF THE DAY

4 Four Division I men's teams are still looking for their first victory: Houston Baptist: 0-7 Florida A&M: 0-7 Kennesaw State: 0-8 Central Connecticut: 0-9 —Associated Press

COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Unblemished list whittled to five
Buckeyes top the ranks of the remaining unbeatens

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The ranks of the unbeaten were thinned out even more Tuesday night.

Louisville, Maryland and Butler all lost for the first time, falling to Texas Tech, Penn State and Baylor, respectively. That left just five undefeated teams in all of Division I.

OHIO STATE | 9-0

AP Rank: 3 |

Pomeroy Rank: 1

Highlight So Far: Ohio State won 74-49 at North Carolina in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge, handing the Tar Heels their most lopsided home loss under Roy Williams.

Why They're Unbeaten: Kaleb Wesson is a force, averaging 14.1 points and 9.3 rebounds a game, and the Buckeyes are holding opponents to 33.3% shooting.

Upcoming Challenge: Ohio State faces Kentucky on Dec. 21 in Las Vegas.

AUBURN | 8-0

AP Rank: 12 |

Pomeroy Rank: 16

Highlight So Far: The Tigers won a pair of games in New York late last month, beating New Mexico 84-59 and Richmond 79-65.

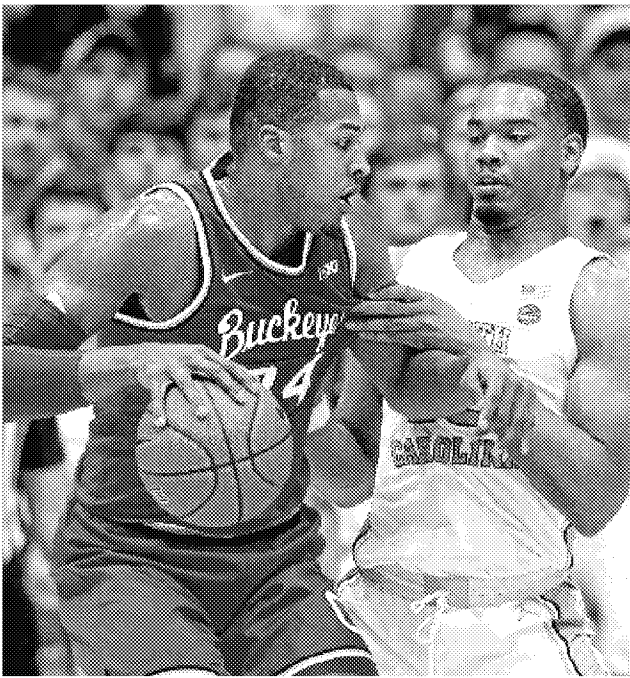
Why They're Unbeaten: The Tigers have picked up where they left off when they made it to last season's Final Four. Senior guard Samir Doughty is the team's leading scorer, and Isaac Okoro and Austin Wiley are shooting high percentages from the field.

Upcoming Challenge: Auburn hasn't had a marquee matchup on its schedule yet, but its Southeastern Conference opener at Mississippi State on Jan. 4 should be a tough one.

SAN DIEGO STATE | 10-0

AP Rank: 25 | Pomeroy

Rank: 32



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Ohio State forward Kaleb Wesson works against North Carolina's Garrison Brooks during last week's 74-49 blowout of the Tar Heels in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge.

Highlight So Far: The Aztecs beat Creighton by 31 and Iowa by 10 on back-to-back days at an event in Las Vegas.

Why They're Unbeaten: Only two of their opponents have reached 70 points. The Aztecs were nearly knocked off by San Jose State this past Sunday, but a last-second 3-pointer by Malachi Flynn gave them a 59-57 win.

Upcoming Challenge: San Diego State already made

it through one trip to Utah when it beat BYU on Nov. 9. The Aztecs head back to that state for a Jan. 4 matchup with Utah State.

DUQUESNE | 8-0

AP: Unranked | Pomeroy

Rank: 68

Highlight So Far: The Dukes haven't been tested much, but they went to the Bahamas last month and beat Indiana State, Air Force and Loyola Marymount.

Why They're Unbeaten: The

Dukes have six players averaging between 8.9 and 12.3 points per game, and center Michael Hughes already has 24 blocked shots.

Upcoming Challenge: Duquesne begins a stretch of four straight neutral-site games with an interesting matchup with Radford on Saturday.

LIBERTY | 11-0

AP: Unranked | Pomeroy

Rank: 71

Highlight So Far: The Flames beat Radford 66-60 in their season opener.

Why They're Unbeaten: The Flames won an NCAA Tournament game last season, so this early success should be no surprise. They're outscoring opponents by an average of 13.1 points a game from 3-point range while shooting 42.1% from beyond the arc.

Upcoming Challenge: Liberty hasn't played a very tough schedule so far, but the Flames go on the road to face Vanderbilt on Dec. 14 and LSU on Dec. 29.

Wednesday's Top 25

NO. 15 ARIZONA 99, OMAHA 49:

Chase Jeter and Josh Green each scored 15 points as the host Wildcats (10-1) dominated the Mavericks (5-7) in Tucson. Freshman Nico Mannion added 13 points and 11 assists.

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We want to hear from you!

Kids please write Santa a letter telling him everything you want for Christmas, ask what he does when he is not delivering presents or see if Rudolph is ready for the big night.



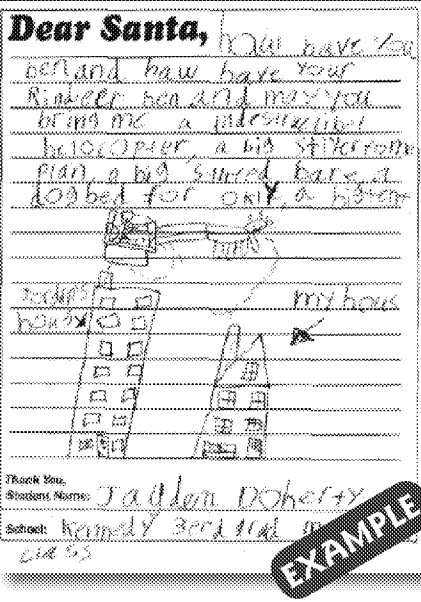
Directions:

- Have your child write a letter to Santa
- Have them write their letter on lined notebook paper. Submissions should be no more than 10 lines of copy and should be signed with child's first name only for privacy
- Include at the bottom/back after the letter child's full name and age, contact name on behalf of the child and phone number to be reached at. (For internal prize drawing purposes only - not for marketing. All information is kept private.)
- Drop off to The Montana Standard by December 16th at 25 W. Granite St. or fax to 406.496.5578 or scan the paper and email to jamie.rowling@mtstandard.com
- For classrooms/daycares and other organizations, please call 406.496.5546 to arrange for pick up of your entries.

Rules:

- One entry per child
- Children up to age 10 can participate
- Random prize drawings for those entries submitted

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Happy Holidays

The Montana Standard will be publishing our special expanded holiday edition on December 24th this year for both December 24th and December 25th publication days to allow our staff to spend holiday time with their family.

The MONTANA STANDARD

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PHOTO COURTESY CRAZY MOUNTAIN MOTORSPORTS

Based in Clyde Park, Crazy Mountain Motorsports dropped snowmobile manufacturing after almost two decades to jump into the snowbike market. The kits attach to motorcycles to make them snow-shredding machines.

Motorcycles on snow

Snowbikes spark winter riding

BRETT FRENCH french@billingsgazette.com

There's a new electricity in the winter air. Snow-churning, tree-dodging, modified machines called snowbikes are supplying the spark.

Motorcycle riders are no longer confined to the fair weather months. They can now purchase kits that swap out the front tire with a ski and replace the rear wheel with a track that resembles a smaller version of those on a snowmobile.

Interest in the motorsport is steadily accelerating.

"After Polaris bought Timbersled in 2015, that's when things took off," said Brad Abbe, owner of Power Sports Tech in Roberts, who used to sell the kits but now manufactures products for modifying snowbikes.

Timbersled, which started building the kits in 2008 in Ponderay, Idaho, had risen to the top of what's becoming a competitive field among small businesses manufacturing the conversion kits. Polaris is one of the big manufacturers of UTVs, ATVs and snowmobiles. By buying Timbersled, Polaris focused attention and advertising revenue on what had been a niche in power sports.

Converted

Mark Hoffman has found his sweet spot in that niche. For almost two decades he built high-end, high-powered snowmobiles at his Clyde Park business Crazy Mountain Motorsports. In 2015 he dropped snowmobiles completely, moving on to snowbikes. After riding one, he no longer wanted to snowmobile.

"They're way easier to ride because it's narrow," he said. "It's not trying to fall over all the time" when stopped on a steep downhill.

Hoffman said he's seen 20% of the Crazy Mountains in his backyard on a snowmobile and now plans to see the other 80% on a snowbike because they can go where his snowmobile couldn't, and with less of a workout for him. On a snowmobile he was constantly leaning, pulling and lifting while riding, but not on a snowbike.

"I've always been a motorcycle guy," Hoffman said. He started riding when he was only 4 years old and has raced motorcycles.

Yet he put his daughter's friend, who had never ridden anything motorized, on his 450 KTM and she was immediately cruising around a meadow doing figure eights and giggling, Hoffman said.

"The snowbike market is in its infancy right now, but it's exploding," he said. "I'm just really excited about the opportunities."

Takeoff

Hoffman and CMX aren't alone in seeing a spike in snowbike in-

terest.

"We saw a decent increase in sales in the last couple of years," said Travis Burian, owner of Yellowstone Motorsports in Bozeman, which sells the Timbersled kits.

Abbe began snowbiking in 2012. He was one of the first to sell the Timbersled kits out of his shop. Every year the company's sales doubled. But motorcycles aren't made for winter. Abbe would see his engine temperature drop in one minute from 180 degrees to 80 when he'd drive off-trail and into powdery snow that cooled the motor.

"I noticed right away bikes had problems," he said, so he started making parts for his own use.

Now Abbe manufactures four products to make motorcycles more winter friendly, including a motor cover that keeps snow out and a thermostat to keep coolant at the optimal temperature. He started making the items for himself, then friends, and is now

producing them for a worldwide market.

Riding

Burian and Abbe had also both snowmobiled before jumping to snowbikes. Converting motorcycles to be snow friendly machines pushed several buttons, the biggest being the maneuverability.

"It's a riot," Burian said. "You can make your own line wherever you want to go."

Abbe said the bikes need a firm base of snow to ride on, otherwise they will chainsaw down. Ideally, 6 inches of fresh snow atop some hard pack is the best riding, he said.

"They're so agile," Abbe said. "You're able to get into places you never would get into with a snowmobile."

"It's just like riding a dirt bike in the woods," Burian said. "It changes how you ride in certain zones."

Please see SNOWBIKES, Page C2

OUTDOORS JUST FOR KIDS

The story of the incredible shrinking birds

There's an idea in science that animals that live in colder places need bigger bodies to survive.

So a whitetail deer living in a southern state like Florida may be noticeably smaller than a whitetail deer that lives in Canada where the temperature is much colder.

This is called the Bergmann's Rule, named after the scientist who came up with it — Carl Bergmann. It makes sense when you consider that we humans need to add layers of insulation like long underwear and heavy coats to be able to stay warm in cold, wintry places.

So what happens if you live in a place that is slowly getting warmer? A scientist at Chicago's

Field Museum has a possible answer. Forty-one years ago he began collecting migrating birds in the spring and fall that died after hitting a nearby building's windows. Then he measured the birds and wrote down what he found.

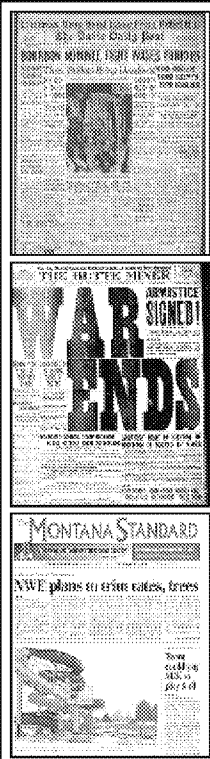
Over those 41 years — after measuring more than 70,000 birds from 52 different species — scientist Dave Willard and his co-workers discovered that all of the birds have gotten slightly smaller, except for their wings. Their wings have gotten a tiny bit bigger.

With temperatures getting warmer where the birds go to breed and nest in the summer, Willard and his co-workers be-

lieve they have gotten smaller to be able to live more comfortably in warmer weather, since smaller bodies hold less heat. The longer wings help the birds continue to make their long migrations even though their bodies are smaller and produce less energy.

The surprising discovery shows how something as simple as taking measurements over a long period of time may show how things are changing. It's one reason scientists like to have lots of information, over many different years. It helps them to see trends that may not show up in just a couple of years.

— Brett French, french@billingsgazette.com



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**Currently available online in the Butte Miner, The Butte Daily Post and The Montana Standard through 2007.



DUNKIRK EVENING OBSERVER June 22, 1921

Boy Fights Lion in Cave

Nervy Montana Youth Wins Considerable Fame as Result of Battle with Mountain Cat

Helena, Mont. – Daniel went into a lion’s den some centuries ago over in Babylon, and came out with a whole skin, thereby winning considerable fame. A few days ago Otis Synnes went into a lion’s den in Montana and went Daniel one better. He came out with two whole skins – his own and the mountain lion’s.

Synnes is twenty-two years old and has a big reputation as a hunter. Recently he went on a hunting expedition and soon picked up the trail of a deer. Then, all at once, he discovered that he was not the only one tracking the deer.

The Montana youth said there was a big mountain lion ahead of him. He had never shot of these dangerous cats, and decided that this was his opportunity. He trailed the mountain lion for several hours. Finally he came to a big cave on the side of a mountain.

Synnes went into the cave. He heard the cat snarling. All he could see was the cat’s eyes. Synnes fired and killed the animal. The mountain lion measured 81 inches from tip to tip and weighed 140 pounds.

YOUR SHOTS



Aubrie Zohner filled her pronghorn tag on Oct. 11 near Two Dot. Aubrie is a 17-year-old senior at Frenchtown. She made a one-shot kill at 200 yards using her .25-06 with a 100 grain bullet. This is her second antelope buck.

COURTESY OF DAVE Zohner

To share your outdoor photo with Montana Untamed send a copy in an email to french@billingsgazette.com and include your name, phone number, when the photo was taken, the photographer’s name, where the photo subject is from and the general area where the photo was taken. Photos will appear on the Thursday Montana Untamed page and online.

Snowbikes

From C1

Chilly White, writing in a 2018 article posted on bikebandit.com, explained the experience of riding snowbikes this way: “For those who have never ridden a snow bike, the best analogy I can think of is this; it is like riding a Jet Ski on sand dunes. There is a freedom unlike anything else I have ever done.”

White recommended a strong bike since the “the track and deep snow suck horsepower.” Burian rides a Honda 450. White also advocated an electric start, since “kick starting a snow bike requires some balancing technique. The rider is an extra foot or so in the air, so no touching the ground.”

Pockets of devoted riders have sprung up in places like Bozeman and Kalispell, Abbe said. Many of them are older, looking for something different from snowmobiling. But he’s also seen groups of riders with a wide-range of ages – from 16 to 60 – because snowbikes are so easy to ride and fun.

History

The idea of snowbikes has been around a long time. Searching the internet turns up a snowbike built by BMW in 1936, called the Schneekrad. The only problem was it couldn’t be steered. That has been followed by several other creations with catchy names like the Sno Go, which mounted two skis to the front of a motorcycle’s wheel, without taking the wheel off, and a twin track to the back; the Sno Shoo, which featured a ski on the front and a wide track on the back; the Sno Byke and Sno Blazer, resembling modified scooters, and the Shrew, Sno Job, and Alpen-scooter – all early motorcycle-snowmobile hybrids. Chrysler even got into the business by buying the Sno Runner from a Japanese chainsaw manufacturer.

In 2001 A.D. Boivin, a Canadian company, introduced the Snow Hawk, which never quite took wing and was sold in 2011.

It took the X Games to launch the sport to a wider audience in 2017. White, the bikebandit.com writer, credited 2 Moto with creating the modern snowbike kit, but said Timbersled took the invention to the next level by making its kit better at plowing through backcountry powder. Yeti, MotoTrax, Camso, and Montana’s own Crazy Mountain Sports are other kit manufacturers. Riders in online chat rooms extol the benefits and downsides of the different kits.

Locally

Crazy Mountain Motorsports touts a kit with a proprietary 12 1/2-inch wide track that sports 2 1/2- to 2 1/4-inch lugs for gripping the snow. The wide track is all about flotation atop the snow, which is especially important to backcountry riders. In the front, CMX offers its own 11-inch wide ski.

“They do go really well in handlebar-deep snow,” Hoffman said.

He touts his track for its lack of roll resistance, it moves easily when you push the bike, which means the engine doesn’t have to work as hard to turn the track.

Despite its Star Wars look, the technology is fairly easy to install, Hoffman said. Prices for his new kits start at about \$7,600 and climb depending on track size and add ons. He recommends hand guards, an engine blanket and thermostat at a minimum. A brand new bike tricked out with all the coolest stuff and ready to ride could cost \$21,000.

“The kits keep getting better and better,” Abbe said, just like snowmobiles have advanced with better technology.

“It’s fun to be involved because it’s changing. People keep coming out with new ideas,” he said.

OUTDOOR BRIEFS

Group ups reward in moose poaching case

The Skyline Sportsmen Association, of Butte, has added \$500 to the reward offered for information leading to a conviction in a case where a mature bull moose was killed illegally in the Highland Mountains south of Butte.

The maximum reward amount informants may be eligible for in the case is now \$1,500.

The moose was shot sometime between Nov. 15 and 22 in Camp Creek, east of Melrose. The moose was found on the north side of Camp Creek Road after it leaves private property but before it comes to Camp Creek Reservoir.

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks is asking anyone with information on the case to call 1-800-TIP-MONT (847-6668). Informants can remain anonymous.

Tickets on sale for Candlelight Tours at Lewis & Clark Caverns

Montana State Parks announced that tickets are on sale for Holiday Candlelight Tours at Lewis & Clark Caverns State Park.

‘Tis the season to see the colorful limestone caverns lit by the festive glow of candle lanterns as we bring back this holiday favorite. Holiday Candlelight Tours are only offered in December and this year’s tour dates are Dec 20, 21, 22 and Dec 27, 28 and 29. Eight tours are offered from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. each day.

For tickets, call the visitor center at 406-287-3541 between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. daily. Tickets are \$20 for adults (12 and Up), \$8 for children (6 to 11). Children 5 and under are discouraged from attempting the tour.

Tour size is limited, and tickets are non-refundable.

MWA launches 2020 Winter Adventures

Montana Wilderness Association has announced the 2020 season of Winter Adventures (formerly Wild Winter Adventures).

This year, participants will be able to choose from 42 Winter Adventures in diverse locations across the state, from the Ross Creek Cedars in Troy to Pompeys Pillar east of Billings. Winter Adventures range from easy hikes to full-day snowshoe outings, ensuring that any and everyone can find a suitable and enjoyable adventure.

MWA is also offering cross-country skiing adventures for those looking for a new way to explore Montana’s forests, mountains, and prairies.

In addition to cross-country skiing, participants will be able to choose from Winter Adventures offering GPS training, predator awareness, and more. Snowshoes are available free of charge for participants who need them.

All Winter Adventures are led by a knowledgeable local guide, and are free of charge and open to the public. To learn more about the program, see all the available adventures and sign up, visit the website at <http://wildmontana.org/walks>.

Sign-ups are open and some of the area adventures include:

Southwest Montana

- Friday, Feb. 7: Mountain Haggin Moonlight Cross-Country Ski, Anaconda
- Saturday, Feb. 8: Sweeney Creek Snowshoe, Helena
- Saturday, Feb. 22: Bear Trap Canyon Family Snowshoe, Norris

Central Montana

- Wednesday, Jan. 22: Flesher Pass and Sculpture Garden Snowshoe, Lincoln
- Saturday, Feb. 1: Trout Creek Canyon Snowshoe, Helena
- Wednesday, Feb. 19: Wagner Basin and Pictographs Snowshoe,



KEVIN LEAGUE

Montana Wilderness Association has launched 2020 Winter Adventures. In addition to cross-country skiing, participants will be able to choose from Winter Adventures offering GPS training, predator awareness, and more.

Augusta

- Saturday, March 7: Norwegian Gulch Snowshoe, Augusta

Outfitter and guide applications still sought

The Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest is currently soliciting applications from interested outfitters and guides to provide services on National Forest System lands on the Belt Creek–

White Sulphur Springs and the Judith–Musselshell ranger districts. The Forest Service intends to authorize three new special use permits for outfitters and guides providing a variety of services in the area, including snowmobiling, snowshoeing, and skiing. The deadline to apply for these permits is Jan. 31, 2020.

Applications are being accepted for winter snowmobile outfitting and guiding in the Little Belt and Castle mountain ranges; for backcountry skiing, touring, snowshoeing, and winter outfitting and

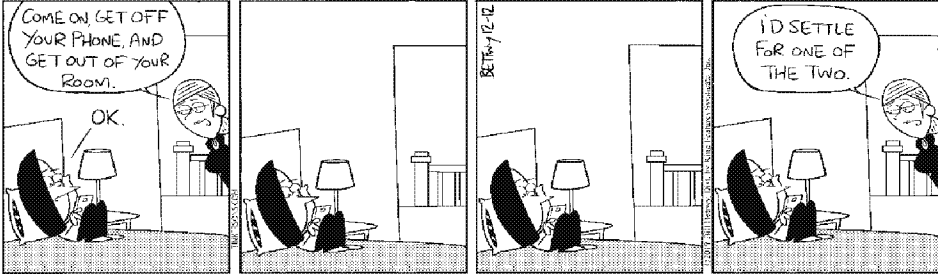
guiding in the Little Belt, Little Snowy, Big Snowy, Highwood, Castle, and Crazy mountain ranges; and for non-consumptive summer/fall outfitting and guiding (excluding hunting and fishing, and excluding mountain biking in the Big Snowy Mountains) in the Little Belt, Little Snowy, Big Snowy, Highwood, Castle, and Crazy mountain ranges.

Specific details about these outfitter and guide opportunities are available in the “prospectus.” The prospectus is available online at bit.ly/HLC-OutfitterGuide.

Tundra



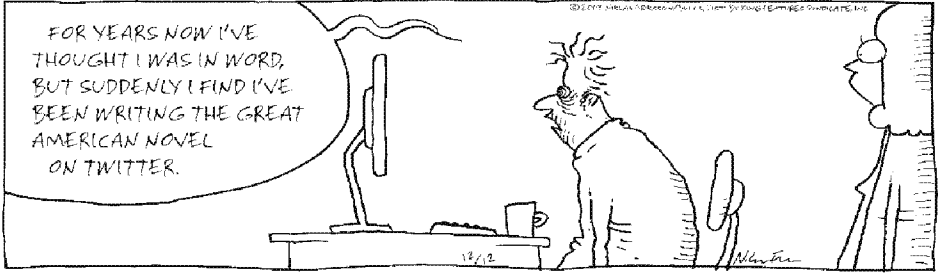
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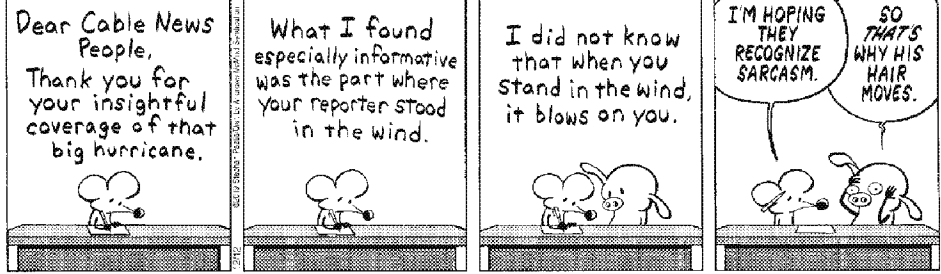
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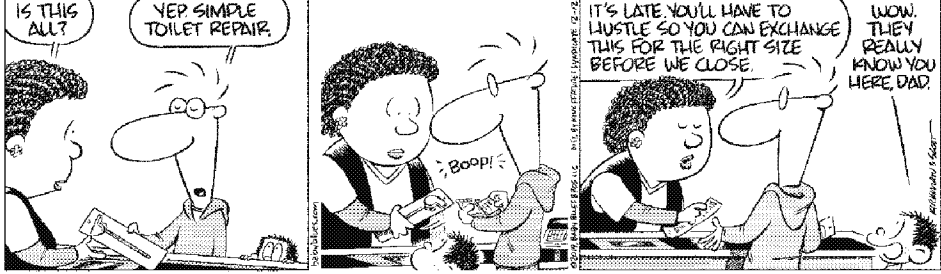
Pearls Before Swine



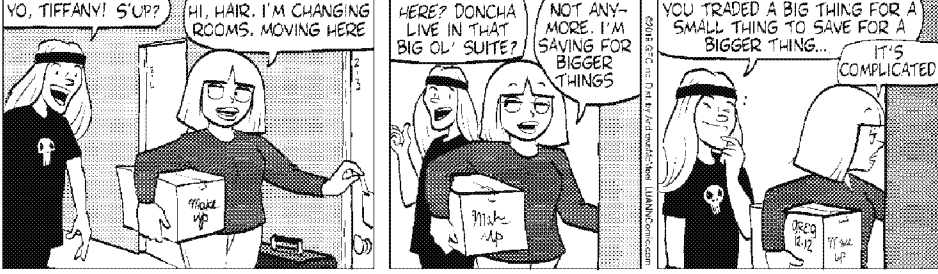
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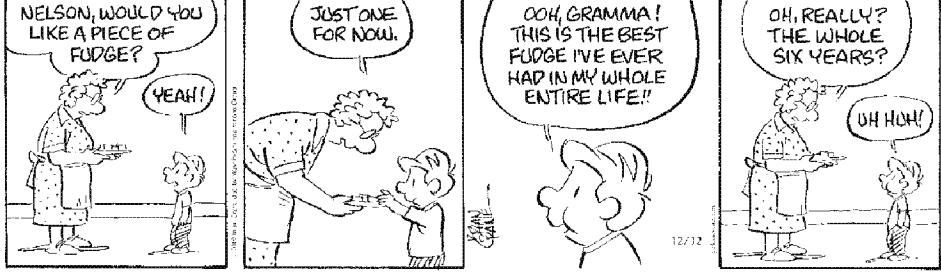
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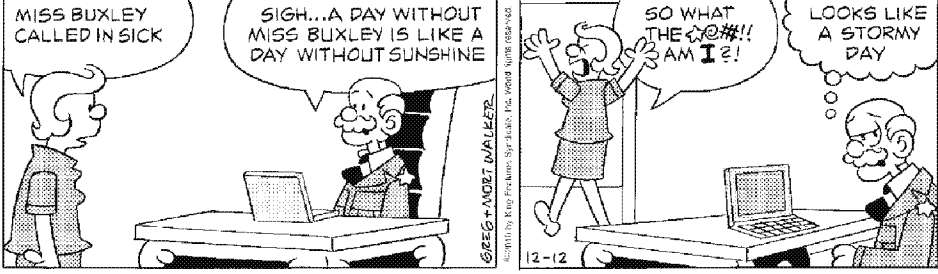
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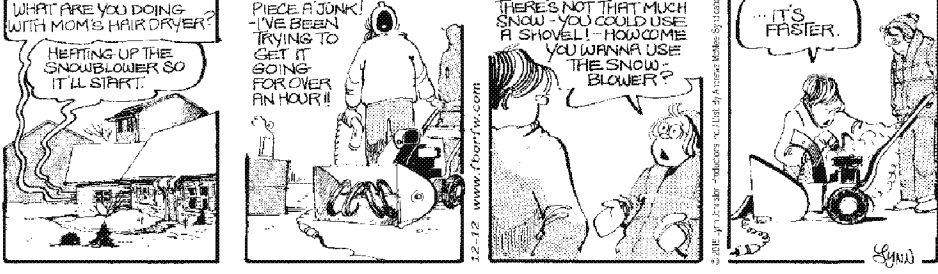
Beetle Bailey



Funky Winkerbean



For Better or For Worse



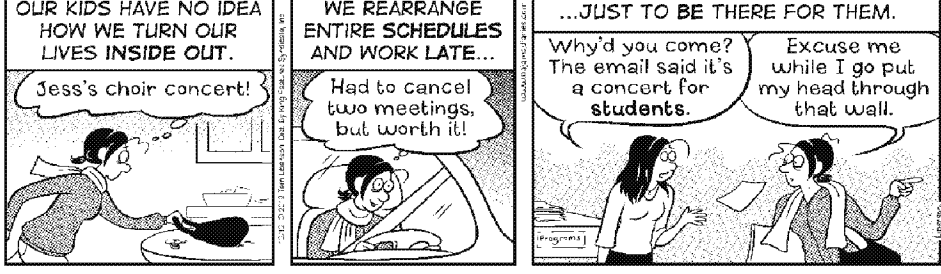
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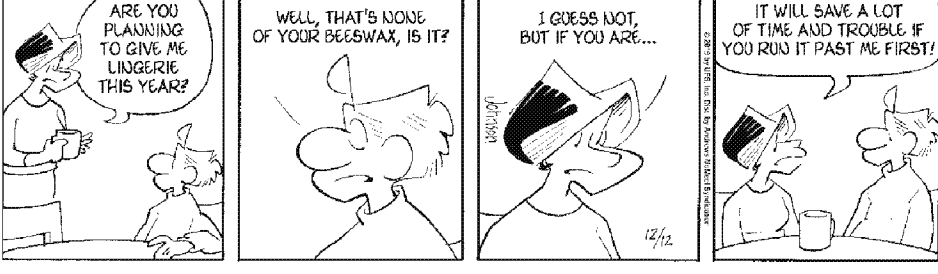
Pooch Café



Pajama Diaries



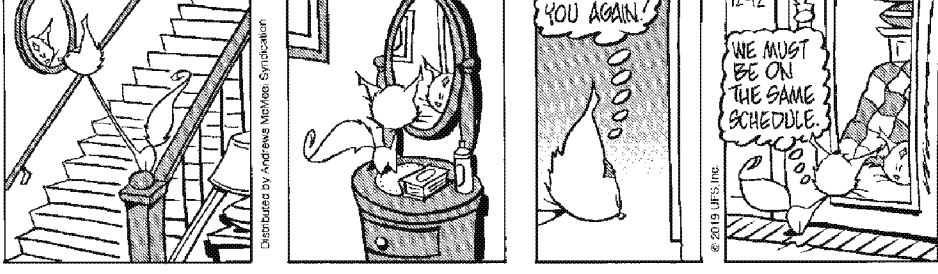
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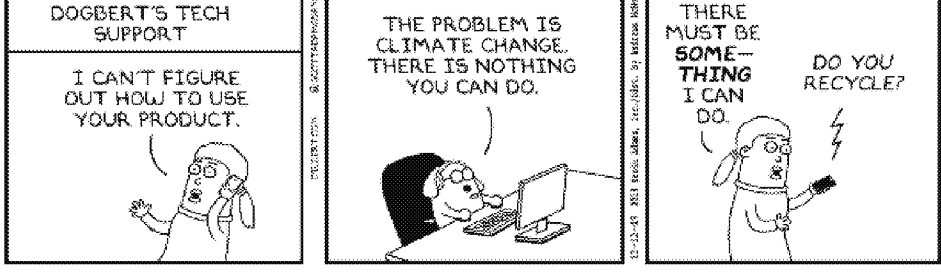
Garfield



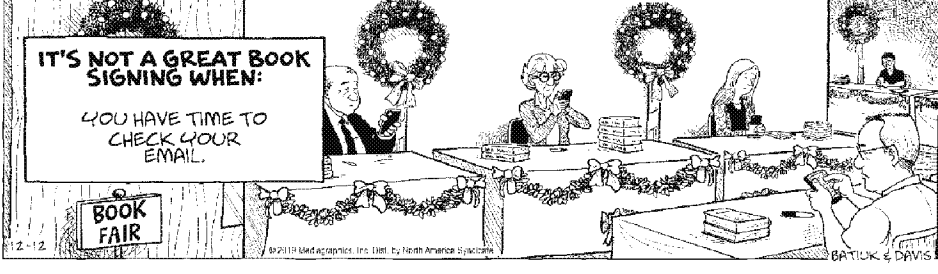
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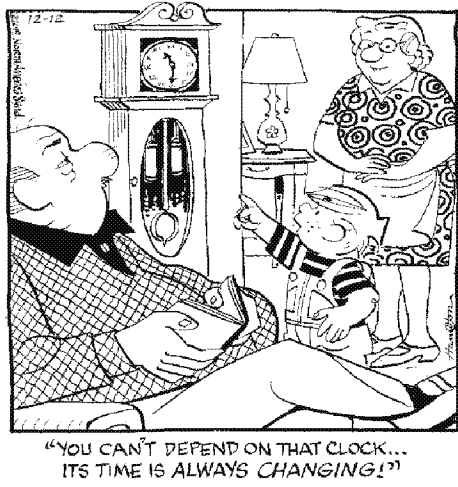
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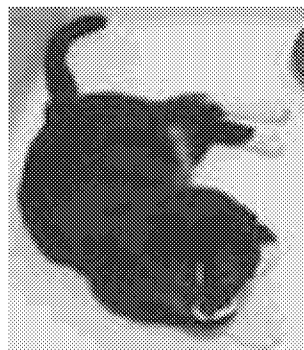
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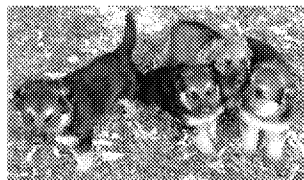
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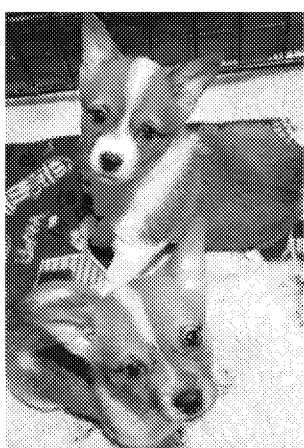
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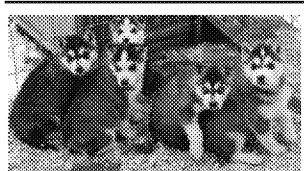
PETS & SUPPLIES



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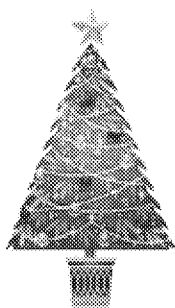
FOUND ON Westside: Set of keys on Lanyard. Call to identify. 491-6216

NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

4:30 MASS will be moved to 4:00 on Saturdays starting December 7th at Saint Johns Catholic Church. Any questions please call the parish office at 406-782-8349. Thank you.

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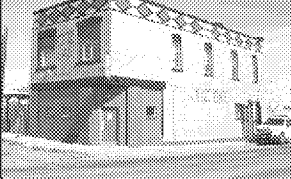
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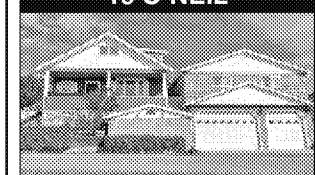
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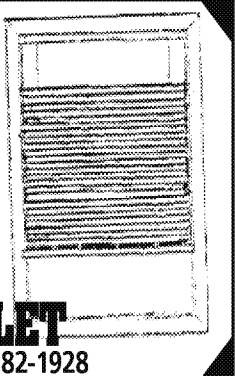
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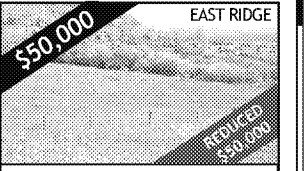
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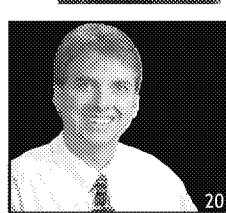
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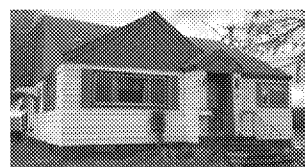
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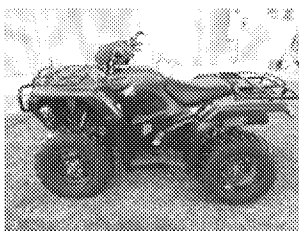
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Wumo

And what's your name? HELP! He wants to harvest my data! Privacy breach!

Dating among the paranoid

Jumble

JUMBLE
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MEASU
NRDIG
TRYOHN
ZEFEER

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Yesterday's Jumbles: SLOSH CHIDE PLURAL CACTUS
Answer: She loved having the new way of discarding food scraps in the sink --- AT HER DISPOSAL

CryptoQuip

AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

12-12 CRYPTOQUOTE

PL JPN VK ZNE UBVLZCDA
ENJXBC X HNNC HMLKE JVDD
ZLYLB PXYL NZL. — RPVZLKL

JVKCNW
Yesterday's Cryptoquote: A HAPPY PERSON IS NOT A PERSON IN A CERTAIN SET OF CIRCUMSTANCES, BUT RATHER A PERSON WITH A CERTAIN SET OF ATTITUDES. — HUGH DOWNS

Sudoku

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

3			5			9
1	7		3	4		2
		8			2	
		1		2		8
		7			4	
2	3		8	1		9
9			4			6

Difficulty Level ★★★ 12/12

Yesterday's Answers

6	1	8	2	5	7	9	4	3
5	3	4	1	6	9	7	2	8
9	2	7	3	4	8	6	5	1
8	4	9	7	1	3	5	6	2
1	6	2	8	9	5	4	3	7
7	5	3	4	2	6	1	8	9
3	9	6	5	8	1	2	7	4
2	8	1	6	7	4	3	9	5
4	7	5	9	3	2	8	1	6

Difficulty Level ★★★ 13/12

Bridge

Two for the price of one

East dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 10 9 4 2
♥ A 4 3 2
♦ A K 4 2
♣ K

WEST
♠ J
♥ K Q J 10
♦ A Q J 10 8 7 6 5
♣ A Q J 10 8 7 6 5

EAST
♠ K 5
♥ 9 8 6 5
♦ Q J 9 8 7
♣ 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A Q 8 7 6 3
♥ 7
♦ 10 6 5 3
♣ 9 4

The bidding:
East Pass South 2♣ West 5♣ North 5♣
Opening lead — ace of clubs.

This deal from the New England district's 1999 Grand National Pairs final presented two declarers with an unusual choice: to play for an extremely remote lie of the cards that would allow them to make five spades legitimately, or to opt for a more devious approach that might lure an opponent into an error. Oddly, both options proved successful.

The auction was identical at both tables, and both Wests led the ace of clubs and switched to the king of hearts, taken by dummy's ace. Both declarers then led a spade to the queen and cashed the ace.

At the first table, South now ruffed a club, ruffed a heart, led a diamond to the ace, disclosing the 5-0 break, and ruffed another heart. A diamond to the king was then followed by the four of hearts, on which declarer discarded one of his two losing diamonds.

Because West had started with the K-Q-J-10 of hearts, he had to win the trick and return a club, allowing declarer to get rid of his last diamond as he ruffed in dummy — making five.

At the other table, the declarer, who admittedly never considered the aforementioned line of play, found a more subtle route to 11 tricks. After drawing trump (unblocking dummy's 10-9 of spades in the process), he ruffed a club in dummy and then led two more trumps, discarding a diamond from dummy.

East discarded a diamond on the first trump but ran into a difficult problem on the second one. If South had the hand he actually held, it was necessary to retain four diamonds. But if South had a heart and three diamonds (giving West only three hearts), then East needed to keep all four of his hearts. If he did not, declarer could concede a heart, cross to dummy with a diamond and ruff a heart to establish dummy's last heart for a diamond discard.

In practice, East, after much agonized thought, let go of a diamond. South then played the A-K and another diamond, establishing his ten, and the contract was home.

Tomorrow: Bidding quiz.
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Crossword

CROSSWORD
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

1 Puzzle book feature
5 Video chat need
11 Diva's piece
12 Words before someone else's words
13 Workout count
14 Sports jersey feature
15 Mitchum or De Niro film
17 Poorly birds
22 Velvety flower
24 Floor part
25 Book cover
26 Casserole bit
27 Blow one's top
30 Colorado resort
32 Origami need
33 Biol. or geol.
34 Like some resorts
38 Money, in slang
41 Shrek, for one
42 Copy fixer

DOWN

1 Painter Chagall
2 Region
3 Closing, as a jacket
4 Studio stands
5 Carafe contents
6 Matches
7 Underserved accusation
8 Corn core
9 Had something
10 Body of eau

Yesterday's answer

16 Take wing
19 Tearing to shreds
20 Leg bend
21 Penn of "Milk"
22 Make ready
23 Surrounding glow
28 Former Spanish coin
29 Small quake
30 Braying beast
31 Cone units
35 Broad-casts
36 Jason's ship
37 For fear that
38 Last mo.
39 Dedicated poem
40 Free (of)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11				12					
13				14					
15				16					
		17			18		19	20	21
22	23				24				
25					26				
27			28	29		30	31		
32					33				
			34		35			36	37
38	39	40				41			
42						43			
44						45			

12-12

NATION&WORLD

DIGEST

Officials consider hate group angle

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — The man and woman who stormed a Jewish market in a deadly shooting in Jersey City clearly targeted the place, the mayor said Wednesday, amid growing fears the bloodshed was an anti-Semitic attack.

The killers were identified as David N. Anderson, 47, and Francine Graham, 50 — both of them also suspects in the slaying of an Uber driver found in the trunk of a car in nearby Bayonne over the weekend, New Jersey Attorney General Gurbil Grewal said.

Investigators believe the two dead attackers — who were thought to be a couple — identified themselves in the past as Black Hebrew Israelites, a movement whose members have been known to rail against whites and Jews, according to a law enforcement official who was briefed on the matter and spoke on condition of anonymity. Authorities found social media postings from at least one of the killers that were anti-police and anti-Jewish, the official said.

FAA didn't ground plane after warning

After the first crash of a Boeing 737 Max last year, federal safety officials estimated that there could be 15 more fatal crashes of the Max over the next few decades if Boeing didn't fix a critical automated flight-control system.

Yet the Federal Aviation Administration did not ground the plane until a second deadly crash five months later.

The FAA analysis was disclosed Wednesday during a hearing of the House Transportation Committee, which is investigating the FAA's oversight of Boeing and the Max.

FAA Administrator Stephen Dickson declined to call the agency's decision not to immediately ground the plane a mistake. Instead, the FAA and Boeing issued notices reminding pilots how to handle a nose-down pitch of their plane.

BRIEFLY

SETTLEMENT: Harvey Weinstein and his former film studio's board reached a tentative \$25 million settlement that would end almost every sexual misconduct lawsuit brought against him and his company, The New York Times reported Wednesday.

INTEREST RATES: The Federal Reserve left its benchmark interest rate alone Wednesday and signaled that it expects to keep low rates unchanged through next year. Its benchmark rate will remain in a low range of 1.5% to 1.75%.

THIRD ELECTION: Israel's deadlocked parliament on Wednesday failed to meet a midnight deadline to form a coalition government, triggering an unprecedented third election in a 12-month period while giving scandal-plagued Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu a break as he fights to save his political career.

MISSING PLANE: The Chilean Air Force said Wednesday it recovered debris believed to be from a military transport plane carrying 38 people that vanished days earlier. An official said the material was found floating roughly 20 miles from the place the C-130 Hercules last had radio contact.

FINANCIAL RECORDS: The House cited 2020 election security concerns Wednesday when it urged the Supreme Court not to delay the enforcement of congressional subpoenas for financial records of President Donald Trump and his business from Deutsche Bank and Capital One Financial Corporation.

MILITARY ATTACK: About 100 Islamic militants ambushed an army camp in western Niger, a military spokesman said late Wednesday, killing at least 71 soldiers in the deadliest attack on the West African country's forces in years. The large-scale attack comes amid a surge of assaults on army camps in the Sahel region, which have allowed jihadists to amass weapons and vehicles for their arsenal.

— Associated Press

ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT

Panel moves toward vote

Dems not expected to amend charges; vote expected for Thursday

ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The House Judiciary Committee took the first steps Wednesday evening toward voting on articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump, beginning a marathon two-day session to consider the historic charges with a lively prime-time hearing at the Capitol.

Democrats and Republicans used the otherwise procedural meeting to deliver sharp, poignant and, at times, personal arguments for and against impeachment. Both sides appealed

to Americans' sense of history — Democrats describing a strong sense of duty to stop what one called the president's "constitutional crime spree" and Republicans decrying the "hot garbage" impeachment and what it means for the future of the country.

Rep. David Cicilline of Rhode Island asked Republicans standing by Trump to "wake up" and honor their oath of office. Republican Rep. Mike Johnson of Louisiana responded with his own request to "put your country over party," Rep. Lou Correa, D-Calif., shared his views in both English and Spanish.

One Democrat, Rep. Val Demings of Florida, told the panel that, as a descendant of slaves and now a member of Congress, she has faith in America because

it is "government of the people" and in this country "nobody is above the law."

Republican Rep. Jim Jordan of Ohio said Democrats are impeaching because "they don't like us," and read out a long list of Trump's accomplishments.

"It's not just because they don't like the president, they don't like us," Jordan added.

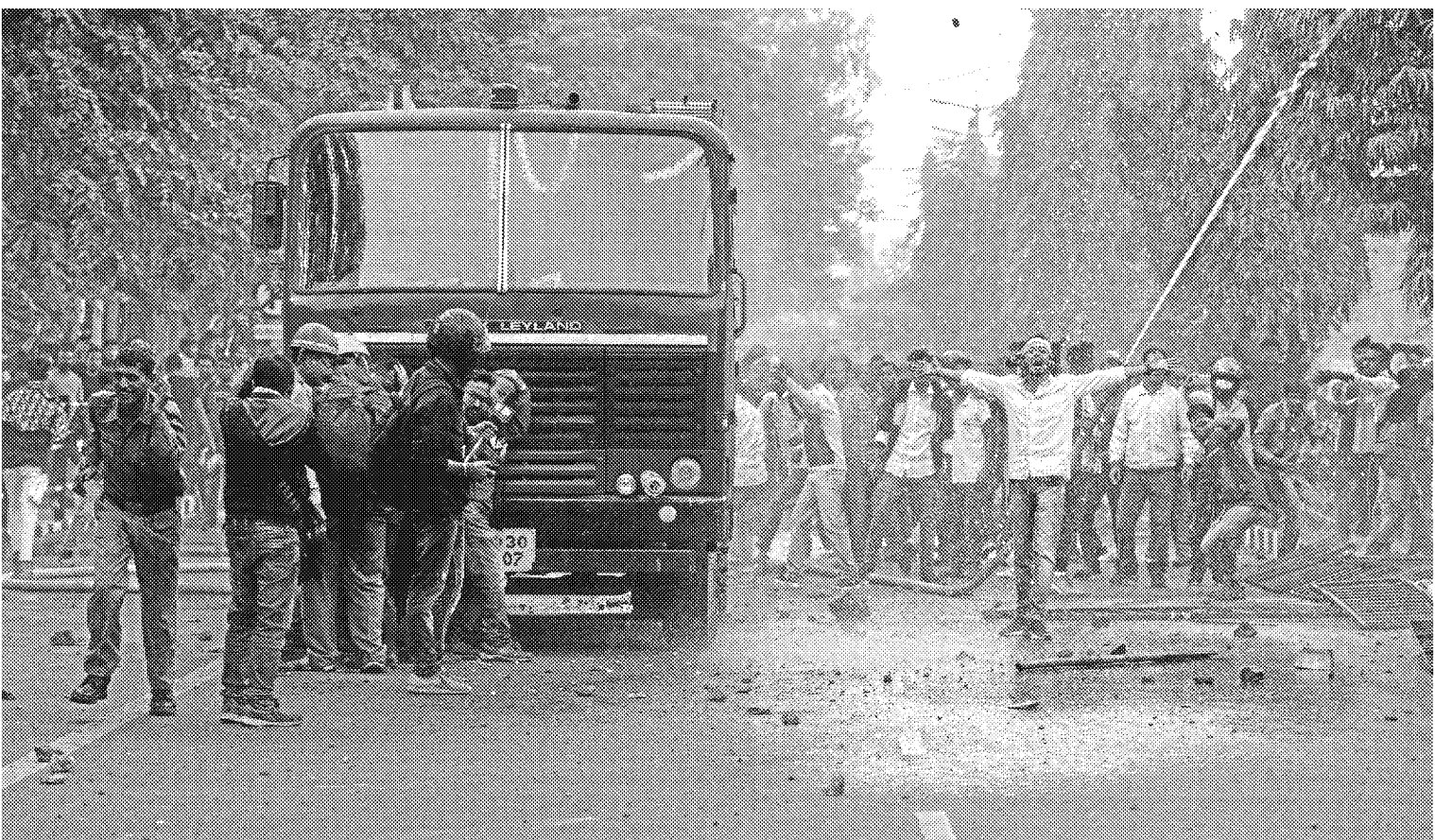
The committee is considering two articles of impeachment introduced by Democrats. They charge Trump with abuse of power for asking Ukraine to investigate Joe Biden while withholding aid as leverage, and obstruction of Congress for stonewalling the House's investigation.

On Thursday, the committee will likely vote to send the arti-

cles to the full House, which is expected to vote next week. That could come after hours of debate over Republican amendments, though the articles aren't likely to be changed. Democrats are unlikely to accept any amendments proposed by Republicans unified against Trump's impeachment.

Meanwhile, Trump is looking for more than a likely acquittal in the GOP-controlled Senate. He also wants vindication. Trump and his allies have been building up the likely Senate trial, an effort to delegitimize the Democratic-controlled House's impeachment process by contrast.

But it is increasingly clear that Senate Republicans, led by Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, want a swift trial, potentially with no new witnesses called.



ANAPAM NATH, ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIA'S PARLIAMENT PASSES CONTENTIOUS CITIZENSHIP BILL

Indian lawmakers approved legislation on Wednesday granting citizenship to non-Muslims who migrated illegally from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. Critics of the government said the legislation undermines the country's secular constitution, as protests against the law intensified in some parts of the country. The Citizenship Amendment Bill seeks to grant Indian nationality to Buddhists, Christians, Hindus, Jains, Parsis and Sikhs who fled the three countries before 2015. Above, protesters shout slogans as they face security officers while demonstrating against the bill Wednesday in Gauhati, India.

New breast cancer drugs promising

One drug can reach brain tumors, another called a 'guided missile'

MARILYNN MARCHIONE Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Doctors on Wednesday reported unusually good results from tests of two experimental drugs in women with an aggressive form of breast cancer that had spread widely and resisted many previous treatments.

One drug showed particular ability to reach tumors in the brain, which are notoriously tough to treat.

The other pairs a sort of homing device for cancer cells with a

payload of chemotherapy that's released when it reaches its target.

"It's a guided missile. It's able to bring the chemotherapy directly to the cancer cell," said the study leader, Dr. Ian Krop of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

Results were disclosed at the San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium and in the New England Journal of Medicine.

From 15% to 20% of breast cancers are "HER2-positive" — they have too much of a protein called HER2 on their cell surfaces, driven by an overactive gene that promotes cancer growth.

Krop led a study of 253 such women to test the guided missile drug, called T-DXd, given as an

infusion every three weeks. These women had tried on average six previous treatments before the experimental drug. Different doses were tested, and 184 women got what turned out to be the best one. Among those women, 61% saw their tumors shrink at least 30%. In 6% of them, no signs of cancer were seen in at least two followup scans.

Although the experimental drug was not tested against others, the response rate is three to four times better than what's usually seen in this situation, Krop said. The median time until cancer worsened was 16 months, and to see anything hold such serious cancers at bay for more than a year is exciting, he said.

Side effects were substantial,

though. About 60% of women had low blood counts, nausea, anemia or fatigue, and 15% stopped treatment because of them. Most serious: Twenty-five developed lung inflammation, and four died of it. This is a rare side effect with other drugs for this type of cancer, but it was much more common with the experimental drug. Doctors can watch patients closely and give anti-inflammatory medicines if it occurs, Krop said.

An independent expert, Dr. Jennifer Litton of the MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, said it may be possible to give patients preventative anti-inflammatory medicines. It's worth the risk because the drug's benefit is so great, she said.

House approves defense spending

Package funds Pentagon, gives federal workers 12 weeks of paid leave

ANDREW TAYLOR Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House on Wednesday passed its annual defense policy measure, which combined a \$738 billion Pentagon price tag with legislation to provide federal employees with 12 weeks of paid parental leave.

The sweeping 377-48 vote followed weeks of arduous House-Senate negotiations that finally yielded a traditionally bipartisan measure, stripped of many add-ons sought by Democrats controlling the House.

The result came over outnumbered protests by some of the chamber's most liberal members,

who said Democratic negotiators should have fought harder for House-passed liberal policies. They are also unhappy about the spiraling defense budget.

The compromise between the Democratic-controlled House and the GOP-held Senate broke free after Republicans agreed to accept a Democratic demand — endorsed by Trump in end-stage negotiations — for the landmark parental leave provision. Negotiators also endorsed Trump's call for a new "space force" — a provision previously backed by the House on a bipartisan basis.

Trump has said he'll sign the measure, which is expected to pass the Senate next week at the latest.

Democrats dropped a provision to block Trump from transferring money from Pentagon accounts to constructing a fence along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Watchdog in crossfire on FBI investigation

Inspector general caught in political tug of war while testifying

ERIC TUCKER AND MICHAEL BALSAMO Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department's internal watchdog was caught in a political tug of war Wednesday as Republican and Democratic senators used his report on the origins of the Russia investigation involving Donald Trump's 2016 campaign to support their views that it was a legitimate probe or a badly bungled farce.

Inspector General Michael Horowitz testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee about his findings that while the FBI had a legitimate basis to launch the investigation and was not motivated by political bias in

doing so, there were major flaws in how that investigation was conducted.

Horowitz himself tried to strike a balance. He insisted that the FBI should not feel comforted by his findings and pointed out the absence of evidence for some of the most sensational claims by Trump and his supporters: that the investigation into ties between his presidential campaign and Russia had been opened for political reasons, that agents had infiltrated his election bid or that former President Barack Obama had directed a wiretap of the Republican candidate.

Still, his opening statement was overwhelmingly critical of the investigation, and he returned time and again throughout the hearing to serious problems that he said underscored the need for policy changes at the FBI.

THE HOLIDAYS

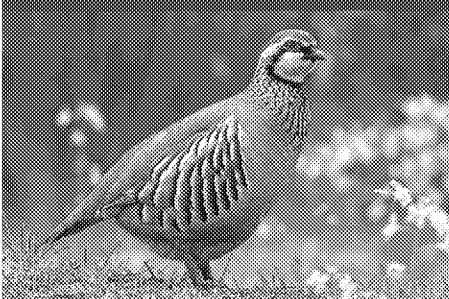
THE COST
OF A CAROL

‘The Twelve Days of Christmas’ will set you back just a little bit more this year

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

The geese and the gold would have stretched your budget if it weren't for those two darling doves who dropped in price. This year, a modest increase of 0.2% makes the 12 gifts a feather's weight higher than 2018. The following is PNC's Financial Services Group's yearly Christmas Price Index accounting for the "Twelve Days of Christmas," with price change from 2018.

A PARTRIDGE IN A PEAR TREE



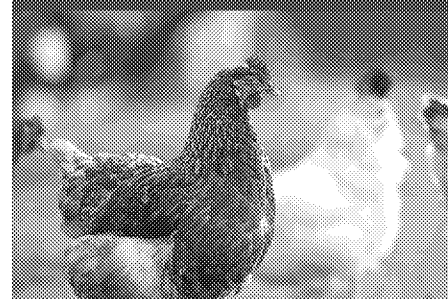
↓ **2019:** \$210.17. **2018:** \$220.13.
(-4.5%) Price includes pear tree.

TWO TURTLE DOVES



▬ **2019:** \$181.50. **2018:** \$181.50.
▬ No change in their price or pecking order this past year.

THREE FRENCH HENS



▬ **2019:** \$181.50. **2018:** \$181.50.
▬ No change in their price this past year.

FOUR CALLING BIRDS



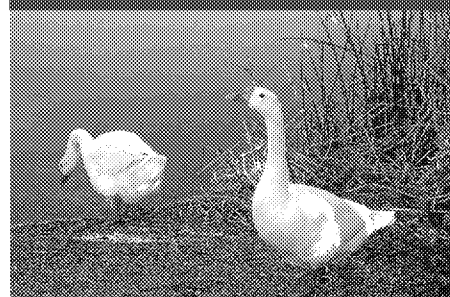
▬ **2019:** \$599.96. **2018:** \$599.96.
▬ These four feathered friends don't have much to sing about — once again, no change.

FIVE GOLDEN RINGS



↑ **2019:** \$750. **2018:** \$825.
(+10%) The price of gold rings surged and surpassed ground they lost last year.

SIX GEESSE A-LAYING



↑ **2019:** \$420. **2018:** \$390.
(+7.7%) They hatched a winner this year with another large jump in price.

SEVEN SWANS A-SWIMMING



▬ **2019:** \$13,125. **2018:** \$13,125.
▬ Swimming in a calm pond over the past year kept this price steady.

EIGHT MAIDS A-MILKING



▬ **2019:** \$58. **2018:** \$58.
▬ Tied to the federal minimum wage, the price hasn't changed in a decade.

NINE LADIES DANCING



▬ **2019:** \$7,552.84. **2018:** \$7,552.84.
▬ The Nine Ladies Dancing two-stepped in place again this year. The seventh straight year with no price increase.

10 LORDS A-LEAPING



▬ **2019:** \$10,000. **2018:** \$10,000.
▬ These lords leapt to a price increase in 2018, but remained firmly in place this year.

11 PIPERS PIPING



↑ **2019:** \$2,748.87. **2018:** \$2,726.
(+0.8%) This year, the pipers can blow their own horn with pride.

12 DRUMMERS DRUMMING



↑ **2019:** \$2,972.25 **2018:** \$2,947.50.
(+0.8%) It's another small increase for the drummers, based on a bump in musicians' asking price.

TOTAL COST | **2019:** \$38,993.59. **2018:** \$38,926.03 (+0.2%)

GLOBAL TRADE | Q&A

A CLOSER LOOK AT NEW PACT

Dems' approval of deal with Mexico, Canada was seen as crucial

PAUL WISEMAN
Associated Press

After months of political wrangling, House Democrats agreed this week to President Donald Trump's revamped version of a 25-year-old North American Free Trade Agreement. But they pried some concessions out of the Trump administration before saying they'd go along.

Tuesday's announcement by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi probably clears the way for congressional approval of Trump's U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement, though pockets of resistance remain and powerful business lobbies said they still needed to study the details of the latest version.

With characteristic brio, the president took to Twitter to declare: "It will be the best and most important trade deal ever made by the USA."

More than anything, though, USMCA would just restore certainty to \$1.4 billion worth of annual trade between the three countries more than two years after Trump began contentious negotiations on a new regional trade pact. Some questions and answers about new agreement:

What is USMCA?

The pact is Trump's replacement for the North American Free Trade Agreement, which took effect in 1994. NAFTA slashed tariffs and tore down most trade barriers between the United States, Canada and Mexico, unleashing a burst of trade among the three countries.

U.S. farmers especially enjoyed increased access to their neighbors' large markets. But NAFTA also encouraged U.S. manufacturers to move factories south of the border to take advantage of low-wage Mexican labor. Trump and other critics called NAFTA a job killer.



MARCO UGARTE, ASSOCIATED PRESS

From left, seated: Deputy Prime Minister of Canada Chrystia Freeland, Mexico's top trade negotiator Jesus Seade and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer sign an update to the North American Free Trade Agreement on Tuesday at the national palace in Mexico City.

How is USMCA different from NAFTA?

Supporters of the deal said it created a powerful regional bloc — a competitive counter to Europe and East Asia — with each NAFTA country taking advantage of its strengths: low-cost manufacturing in Mexico; and high-skilled labor and proximity to cutting-edge research and to customers in the United States and Canada. Trump insisted on a revamped deal and threatened to withdraw from NAFTA if he couldn't get one he liked. Negotiations on a replacement began in August 2017. The three countries signed USMCA a year ago. Now Congress must ratify the deal.

How would this change trade?

Trump's version mostly continues to allow the free flow of trade across North American borders of the three countries. But it updates the pact to reflect the rise of e-commerce and other aspects of the digital economy that didn't exist when NAFTA was negotiated. For instance, USMCA allows U.S. companies to transfer data across borders without encountering discriminatory barriers. Jason Oxman, president of the tech trade group ITI, said the pact's digital provisions set "a new and important precedent for modern trade rules."

Does this protect manufacturing jobs?

Yes. To qualify for USMCA's duty-free benefits, carmakers must get 75% of their automotive content from within North America — up from 62.5% under NAFTA. That means more content would have to be homegrown in higher-wage North America, not imported more cheaply from China and elsewhere.

At least 40% of vehicles would also have to originate in places where workers earn at least \$16 an hour. That would benefit the United States or Canada — not Mexico, where auto assembly workers are paid a fraction of that amount.

The wage requirement is likely to push up the cost of cars built in North America.

Under USMCA, Mexico was required to formally authorize workers to form independent unions. Mexican unions had traditionally been co-opted by employers and the government and done little for workers. Laborers have been fired for trying to bargain on their own for better pay and working conditions. That is one reason Mexican wages remained so low — and attractive to U.S. manufacturers aiming to cut costs.

What changes did Democrats get?

Democrats complained that the deal with Trump's team shared a defect with the treaty it was supposed to replace and improve upon: It would be hard to enforce. In negotiations with Trump's top trade official, Robert Lighthizer, the Democrats successfully pushed to strike language allowing countries or companies to avoid sanctions simply by refusing to participate in dispute-settlement panels.

They also insisted on closing loopholes that would have made it hard to enforce provisions protecting workers from intimidation and violence and on a committee that would monitor Mexico's labor reforms.

The Democrats also won a significant concession from the administration on drug prices. Gone is what Democrats considered a giveaway to the pharmaceutical industry: a provision that offered expensive biologic drugs — which are made from living cells — 10 years of protection from cheaper knockoff competition.

What will this mean for the US economy?

Probably not much.

Trade is a relatively small part of the U.S. economy and trade with Mexico and Canada is smaller still. In an April analysis, the independent International Trade Commission calculated that USMCA would add 0.35% or \$68 billion, to economic growth and generate 176,000 jobs over six years — blips in a \$22 trillion economy with 152 million non-farm jobs.

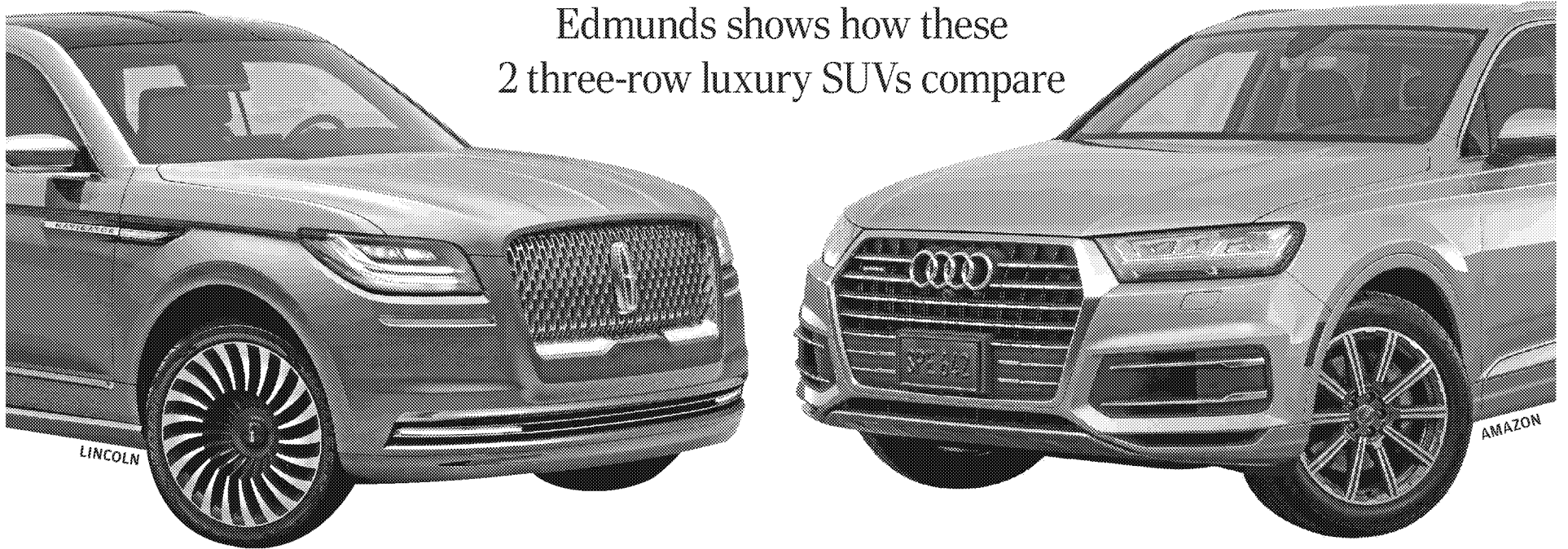
Gregory Daco, chief U.S. economist at Oxford Economics, dismissed USMCA's economic benefits as "negligible."

"The intrinsic importance of the deal is not what it does to modernize NAFTA but rather what it prevents: a potentially disastrous breakdown of trade between the U.S. and its most important trading partners," Daco wrote in a research note Tuesday.

AUTOS

'20 Lincoln Aviator vs. '19 Audi Q7

Edmunds shows how these
2 three-row luxury SUVs compare



TRAVIS LANGNESS | Edmunds

Lincoln has reintroduced its Aviator SUV for 2020. This new three-row luxury SUV is spacious, comfortable and at the forefront of the brand's efforts to introduce more attractive and desirable vehicles. To find out how far Lincoln has come, Edmunds compared the Aviator to its top-ranked midsize three-row luxury SUV, the 2019 Audi Q7. The Q7 boasts impressive technology and safety features plus a quiet and user-friendly interior.

So which one is better for your daily driving, and which offers better value and more equipment?

Standard and optional features

At the base trim levels, the Q7 and the Aviator are comparably equipped. Both have Apple CarPlay and Android Auto compatibility, tri-zone automatic climate control, and warning and mitigation systems for imminent front collisions.

The Lincoln is all-new, and you'll find plenty of the latest interior technology. One highlight is the 10.1-inch center touchscreen that operates the audio and navigation functions.

The system is visually appealing and quick to

respond to commands, but smartphone connectivity suffers from a few usability issues.

Audi's MMI infotainment interface in the Q7 has been around for a few years (a new system will soon replace it), but it's user-friendly. Despite the smaller 8.3-inch display, it's the system we prefer. The driver aids such as adaptive cruise control and blind-spot monitoring work better too, setting off fewer false positives and intruding less on the driving experience.

Interior space

The Q7 and the Aviator are almost exactly the same length, but the Q7 is a bit narrower from side to side and a bit shorter at the roof. These proportions translate into a slight cargo space advantage for the Aviator. It has 18.3 cubic feet of space behind its third-row seat compared to the Q7's 14.2 cubic feet.

From there, the Aviator edges out the Q7 in pretty much every other interior space measurement, including headroom, legroom and shoulder room. That's also true for the storage of small items such as water bottles and smartphones. The differences are small, but the Lincoln wins this round.

Interior quality

The Lincoln Aviator's cabin looks and feels premium upon initial inspection. But take a closer look and you'll find the Aviator uses some cheaper-looking materials, such as piano-black plastic that is susceptible to smudges and fingerprints. The Q7 offers slightly higher-quality materials.

Pricing and power

The Aviator undercuts the Q7 slightly, with a lower base price of \$52,195 compared to the Q7's \$54,545 (both prices include destination fees). The Aviator has a few extra standard safety features that are optional on the Q7, such as blind-spot monitoring with rear cross-traffic alert and lane keeping assist. The Q7's price does, however, include all-wheel drive. On the Lincoln, it's optional.

As you move your way up the trim levels, things progress pretty evenly with both SUVs. The Aviator comes standard with an impressive turbocharged V6 engine that produces 400 horsepower. The Audi's base engine is a more modest turbocharged four-cylinder good for 248 horsepower. Even though the Aviator is more powerful, it gets nearly the same fuel economy as the Audi: 21 mpg in combined city/highway driving for the rear-

wheel-drive version.

At the top of the model lineup, the Aviator is available with a plug-in hybrid powertrain that adds power and some all-electric driving range. The Q7 graduates to a supercharged 3.0-liter V6. A mild hybrid system is expected for future Q7 models, but for now, the V6 is what we've got.

The Aviator with the hybrid powertrain is more expensive than a top-trim Q7, but the Q7 lets you select the options you want rather than bundling them together as the Lincoln does. With the Lincoln, topped-out pricing hovers around \$91,000, while the Audi can peak as high as \$95,000 if you check all the boxes.

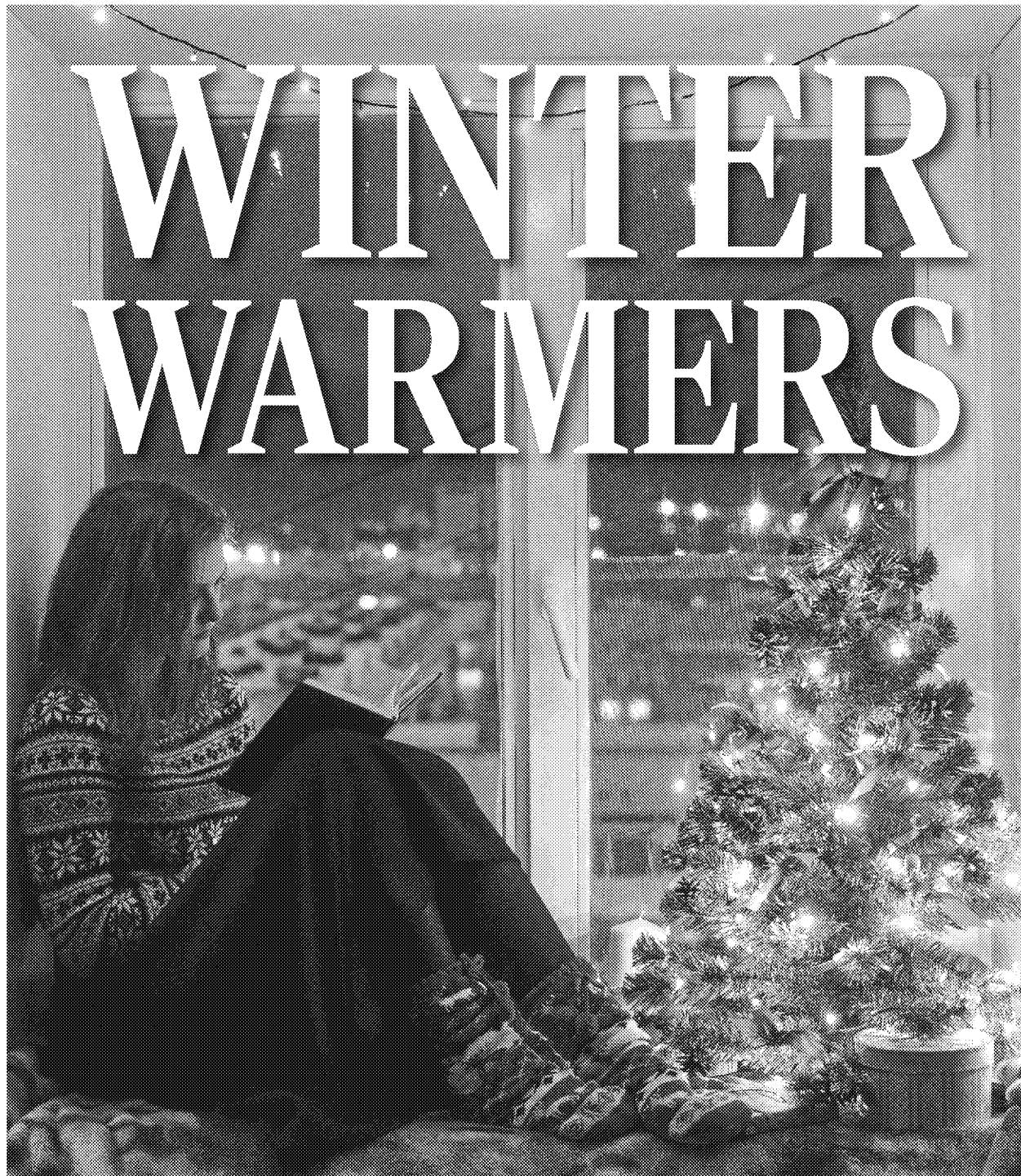
In the battle of standard and optional features, it's nearly neck and neck, though Audi makes it easier for buyers to customize their vehicles with specific features.

Driving experience

The Aviator is well-suited to long highway trips thanks to its comfortable seats and smooth ride. It's not a particularly athletic SUV when going around corners, however.

The Q7, which is also an impressive highway cruiser, feels more nimble. Corners come easier, and the steering wheel provides more feedback for the drive. These qualities can make a big difference if you're looking for a bit of driving fun in your SUV.

BOOKS



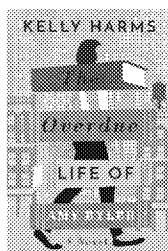
WINTER WARMERS

5 books perfect to snuggle up with

ONLY KONIG | BookTrib

The holiday season is coming and it's the perfect time to snuggle up by the fireplace with a mug of something warm and lose yourself in a good read. But while some of you are reaching for the Christmas stories that are perfect for fireplace reading, I'll be fantasizing about warmer temps (not that I want time to go faster; I just don't want to add more cold to my already shivering bones).

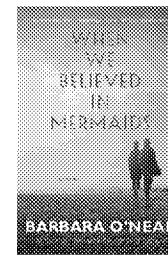
If you're like me, here are a few fabulous reads that take place in warmer temps.



'The Overdue Life of Amy Byler'

By Kelly Harms

Overworked, overstressed single mom Amy reluctantly agrees to take an overdue break when her guilt-ridden ex shows up unexpectedly. In "The Overdue Life of Amy Byler" (Lake Union Publishing), Kelly Harms does what few authors can successfully pull off: deliver snort-your-hot-toddy humor with jaw-dropping insights that'll make you wonder if she's peeking into your own life. Read this and you'll be planning your own #momspringa for next summer.



'When We Believed in Mermaids'

By Barbara O'Neal

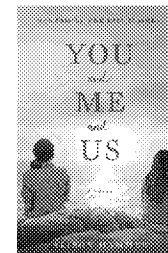
A book that starts with the opening line: "My sister has been dead for nearly fifteen years when I see her on the TV news," promises a turbulent, emotional ride. And in "When We Believed in Mermaids" (Lake Union Publishing), Barbara O'Neal doesn't disappoint. Told through alternating points of view, we experience the ups and downs of sisters Kit and Josie, their heart-breaking childhood and their struggle to survive adulthood. As with all Barbara O'Neal books, the writing is absolutely gorgeous, bringing the setting to vivid life. A trip to Auckland with its brilliant beaches will warm you right up.



'The Beach at Painter's Cove'

By Shelley Noble

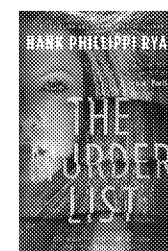
For me, summer reads are synonymous with Shelley Noble. "The Beach at Painter's Cove" (William Morrow) is a heartwarming story of four generations, estranged for years, who come together at the family beach house, each with a different agenda. I adore family saga books and this one has the perfect combination of family secrets and feuds and coming to terms with the past, all in a fabulously described setting. And when the flurries start outside, just stare at the cover.



'You and Me and Us'

By Alison Hammer

I had the honor of reading an advance copy of "You and Me and Us" (William Morrow) by Alison Hammer and haven't been able to stop thinking (or talking) about it. It's hard to believe this is a debut. Alexis has given up on finding a good work/life balance. But when her partner and father of their teenage daughter is diagnosed with terminal cancer, Alexis puts her career on hold and agrees to spend their last summer as a family at "their" beach. This is a beautifully written story about love and loss and guilt and moving forward. It'll rip your heart to shreds and duct tape it back together. While this book doesn't release until April 2020, you can pre-order and thank me later.



'The Murder List'

By Hank Phillippi Ryan

A summer internship with the Boston DA's office is Rachel's ticket to a successful law career, one with her ace defense lawyer husband. Or is it? "The Murder List" (Forge Books) by Hank Phillippi Ryan is a riveting thriller with twists and turns, an intertwined plot and a brilliant writing style that entertains and delivers a punch. It's a fabulous read that will leave you sweating. And if you do happen to read it on a beach, put sunscreen on first because you'll totally lose track of time.

STANDINGS & SCHEDULE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away	Div
Boston	32	20	6	6	46	109	81	12-1-5	8-5-1	7-3-3
Montreal	32	15	11	6	36	104	105	8-7-3	7-4-3	4-4-2
Buffalo	32	15	11	6	36	101	97	9-3-3	6-8-3	6-4-1
Florida	30	15	10	5	35	106	101	9-5-2	6-5-3	3-3-1
Toronto	32	15	13	4	34	104	104	7-4-4	8-9-0	5-5-1
Tampa Bay	29	15	11	3	33	105	93	7-6-1	8-5-2	8-2-0
Ottawa	32	13	17	2	28	86	100	8-5-0	5-12-2	5-4-1
Detroit	32	7	22	3	17	67	129	4-11-1	3-11-2	2-6-0
Metropolitan	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away	Div
Washington	33	23	5	5	51	120	95	9-3-4	14-2-1	3-2-1
N.Y. Islanders	29	20	7	2	42	86	69	12-2-1	8-5-1	6-2-1
Philadelphia	31	17	9	5	39	97	88	10-2-4	7-7-1	6-2-2
Carolina	31	19	11	1	39	103	85	10-5-0	9-6-1	2-6-1
Pittsburgh	31	17	10	4	38	104	85	12-4-2	5-6-2	4-2-3
N.Y. Rangers	30	15	12	3	33	94	94	8-6-2	7-6-1	6-2-0
Columbus	30	12	14	4	28	76	93	8-8-1	4-6-3	4-5-1
New Jersey	30	9	16	5	23	74	111	4-7-5	5-9-0	3-3-1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away	Div
Colorado	31	20	8	3	43	114	85	9-3-2	11-5-1	5-4-0
St. Louis	32	18	8	6	42	94	88	8-4-3	10-4-3	6-1-1
Winnipeg	31	19	10	2	40	92	83	9-5-1	10-5-1	5-2-1
Dallas	32	18	11	3	39	84	76	12-4-1	6-7-2	6-4-2
Nashville	29	14	10	5	33	98	93	9-5-4	5-5-1	5-3-0
Minnesota	31	14	12	5	33	92	101	7-1-3	7-11-2	2-6-1
Chicago	31	12	13	6	30	84	98	7-7-3	5-6-3	2-4-2
Pacific	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	Home	Away	Div
Arizona	33	18	11	4	40	91	80	7-7-1	11-4-3	6-3-3
Edmonton	33	18	11	4	40	100	99	8-5-3	10-6-1	8-3-1
Calgary	33	17	12	4	38	91	98	9-3-2	8-9-2	5-5-1
Vegas	33	16	12	5	37	98	94	8-6-3	8-6-2	7-3-1
Vancouver	31	15	12	4	34	104	95	7-4-3	8-8-1	4-3-1
San Jose	33	15	16	2	32	89	114	9-7-0	6-9-2	7-5-0
Anaheim	31	13	14	4	30	82	92	8-6-2	5-8-2	4-4-1
Los Angeles	32	12	18	2	26	80	103	10-6-1	2-12-1	4-10-1

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss. Top three teams in each division and two wild cards per conference advance to playoffs.

Tuesday's results

Tampa Bay 2, Florida 1
Montreal 4, Pittsburgh 1
Buffalo 5, St. Louis 2
Winnipeg 5, Detroit 1
Nashville 3, San Jose 1
Anaheim 3, Minnesota 2, SO
Dallas 2, New Jersey 0
Calgary 5, Arizona 2
Carolina 6, Edmonton 3
Toronto 4, Vancouver 1
Vegas 5, Chicago 1
Los Angeles 3, N.Y. Rangers 1

Wednesday's results

Washington 3, Boston 2

Montreal 3, Ottawa 2, OT
Colorado 3, Philadelphia 1

Thursday's games

Boston at Tampa Bay, 5 p.m.
Nashville at Buffalo, 5 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Florida, 5 p.m.
Columbus at Pittsburgh, 5 p.m.
Winnipeg at Detroit, 5:30 p.m.
Vegas at St. Louis, 6 p.m.
Edmonton at Minnesota, 6 p.m.
Toronto at Calgary, 7 p.m.
Chicago at Arizona, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Anaheim, 8 p.m.
Carolina at Vancouver, 8 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at San Jose, 8:30 p.m.

NHL ROUNDUP

Capitals take showdown with Bruins

WIRE REPORTS

WASHINGTON — T.J. Oshie scored twice in under four minutes and John Carlson got the go-ahead goal to extend the Washington Capitals' longstanding domination of the Boston Bruins with a 3-2 victory Wednesday in a showdown between the NHL's two best teams.

The Capitals have won 16 of their past 17 games against the Bruins. Boston has lost four in a row with three of those defeats coming in regulation.

Carlson's blast past Jaroslav Halak in the third period fired up a crowd quieted by Sean Kuraly's deflection goal minutes earlier. Earlier, fans in Capitals red and Bruins black and gold all got into it when Boston captain Zdeno Chara and Washington forward Tom Wilson threw down the gloves in a heavyweight fight in the first.

David Pastrnak ripped a perfect shot over Braden Holtby's left shoulder midway through the first for his league-best 26th of the season. It looked like the



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Capitals winger T.J. Oshie celebrates his second goal of the second period against the Bruins on Wednesday in Washington. Oshie had just one goal in his previous 10 games.

Bruins had a two-goal lead on a Patrice Bergeron power-play goal, but Capitals coach Todd Reirden challenged for offside and video review showed Jake DeBrusk was into the zone just before the puck.

AVALANCHE 3, FLYERS 1: Mikko Rantanen scored two goals as Colorado beat Philadelphia in Denver. Pavel Francouz made 32 saves for the Avalanche, who are 7-0-1 in their past eight games.

CANADIENS 3, SENATORS 2 (OT): Montreal beat visiting Ottawa as Cayden Primeau made 35 saves for his first NHL win. Ben Chiarot scored the winner on a pass from Max Domi on a 2-on-1 at 1:11 of overtime.

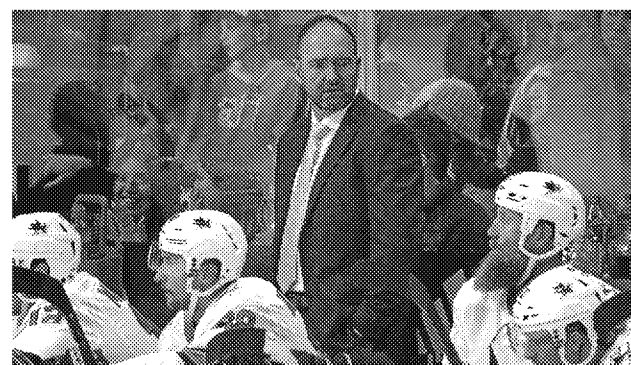
AROUND THE LEAGUE

Slumping Sharks fire coach DeBoer

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Pete DeBoer, the only coach to take the Sharks to a Stanley Cup Final, has been fired.

Doug Wilson announced the change after the Sharks returned home from a road trip on a five-game losing streak. San Jose also fired three of DeBoer's assistants and made assistant Bob Boughner the interim coach.

DeBoer had a record of 198-129-34 in 361 games over four-plus seasons with the Sharks, who made the Stanley Cup Final in 2016. The Sharks, though, have started this season 15-16-2 and entered Wednesday in sixth place in the Pacific Di-



An 0-3-1 road trip in which the Sharks scored just five goals sealed coach Pete DeBoer's fate in San Jose.

vision, five points out of a playoff spot.

The Sharks made the playoffs in each of DeBoer's four seasons, and the team also advanced to the Western Conference Final last season before they lost to eventual Cup champion St. Louis.

Guy Lapointe battling cancer

The Montreal Canadiens announced Wednesday that former defenseman, Hall of Famer and current Minnesota Wild amateur scout Guy

Lapointe, 71, was diagnosed with oral cancer.

The cancer is located at the base of his tongue and has a high cure rate, the Canadiens said in the release.

He won six Stanley Cups in the 1970s with Montreal, was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 1993 as one of the game's best defensemen and had his No. 5 retired by the Canadiens in 2014.

BRIEFLY

BLUE JACKETS: Rookie forward Emil Bemstrom will be sidelined 6-8 weeks with a dislocated rib and broken cartilage.

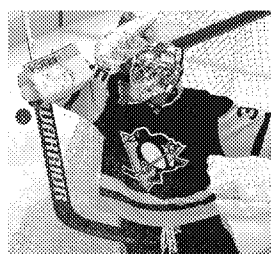
BRUINS: Boston went 0 for 5 on the power play Wednesday and is 2 for its last 25.

— Wire reports

STAT OF THE DAY

82 Penguins goalie **Tristan Jarry** stopped 82 consecutive shots — the longest in the league this season — during his franchise-record scoreless run of 177:15 that ended Tuesday.

— Tribune News Service



STANDINGS & SCHEDULE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf
Boston	17	6	.739	—	6-4	L-1	10-0	7-6	11-3
Philadelphia	18	7	.720	—	8-2	W-3	13-0	5-7	12-3
Toronto	16	8	.667	1½	6-4	L-1	9-3	7-5	10-4
Brooklyn	13	11	.542	4½	7-3	L-1	7-5	6-6	8-6
New York	5	20	.200	13	1-9	W-1	3-10	2-10	2-15
Southeast	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf
Miami	18	6	.750	—	7-3	W-3	11-0	7-6	13-2
Orlando	11	13	.458	7	5-5	L-2	8-5	3-8	7-9
Charlotte	11	16	.407	8½	5-5	W-2	6-8	5-8	8-10
Washington	7	16	.304	10½	2-8	L-3	4-6	3-10	3-7
Atlanta	6	19	.240	12½	2-8	L-2	3-8	3-11	3-12
Central	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf
Milwaukee	22	3	.880	—	10-0	W-16	12-1	10-2	14-2
Indiana	16	9	.640	6	7-3	W-1	10-3	6-6	11-7
Detroit	10	14	.417	11½	6-4	W-2	7-5	3-9	8-13
Chicago	9	17	.346	13½	4-6	W-1	5-9	4-8	6-11
Cleveland	5	19	.208	16½	1-9	L-8	3-10	2-9	4-16

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf
Dallas	16	7	.696	—	8-2	L-1	8-5	8-2	11-4
Houston	16	8	.667	½	5-5	W-1	9-3	7-5	9-5
San Antonio	9	14	.391	7	4-6	W-2	7-6	2-8	6-8
Memphis	8	16	.333	8½	3-7	W-2	3-10	5-6	6-10
New Orleans	6	19	.240	11	0-10	L-10	4-9	2-10	5-13
Northwest	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf
Denver	14	8	.636	—	5-5	L-3	8-3	6-5	7-4
Utah	14	11	.560	1½	4-6	W-1	9-3	5-8	11-7
Okla. City	11	13	.458	4	6-4	L-1	7-5	4-8	9-9
Minnesota	10	14	.417	5	2-8	L-6	3-8	7-6	4-11
Portland	10	15	.400	5½	5-5	W-1	5-6	5-9	6-10
Pacific	W	L	Pct.	GB	L10	Str	Home	Away	Conf
L.A. Lakers	22	3	.880	—	9-1	W-5	10-2	12-1	16-2
L.A. Clippers	19	7	.731	3½	8-2	W-3	13-1	6-6	11-5
Phoenix	11	13	.458	10½	4-6	L-1	6-8	5-5	7-9
Sacramento	11	13	.458	10½	5-5	W-3	6-4	5-9	7-7
Golden State	5	21	.192	17½	2-8	L-2	2-9	3-12	3-14

Tuesday's results

Charlotte 114, Washington 107
Miami 135, Atlanta 121, OT
Philadelphia 97, Denver 92
Portland 115, New York 87

Wednesday's results

Houston 116, Cleveland 110
Indiana 122, Boston 117
L.A. Clippers 112, Toronto 92
L.A. Lakers 96, Orlando 87
Charlotte 113, Brooklyn 108
Chicago 136, Atlanta 102

Utah 127, Minnesota 116
Memphis 115, Phoenix 108
Milwaukee 127, New Orleans 112
Sacramento 94, Okla. City 93
New York 124, Golden State 122, OT

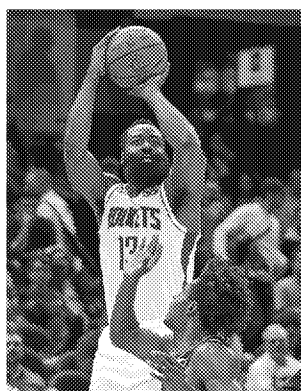
Thursday's games

Philadelphia at Boston, 6 p.m.
Cleveland at San Antonio, 6:30 p.m.
Dallas vs. Detroit at Mexico City, 7 p.m.
Portland at Denver, 8:30 p.m.

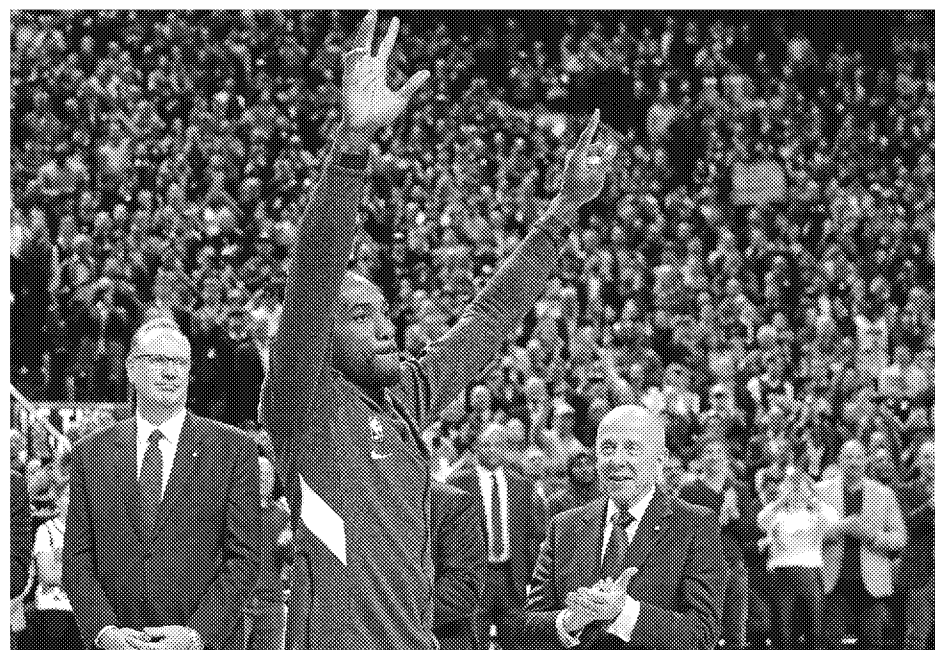
STAT OF THE DAY

55 James Harden scored 20 of his 55 points in the fourth quarter of Houston's victory over the Cavaliers in Cleveland. Harden matched Kyrie Irving's arena record for points in a game as he reached the 50-point mark for the fourth time this season.

— Associated Press



NBA ROUNDUP



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Clippers forward Kawhi Leonard salutes the crowd in Toronto as he receives his 2019 NBA championship ring before Wednesday's game against the Raptors.

After the cheers, Leonard leads Clippers to a blowout

ASSOCIATED PRESS

TORONTO — Kawhi Leonard got his ring, and the Los Angeles Clippers got another win.

Leonard scored 23 points in his return to Toronto, Lou Williams had 18 and the Clippers won their third straight game Wednesday, beating the Raptors 112-92.

Before the game, Leonard received his championship ring from the 2018-19 season, when he helped Toronto beat Golden State for the franchise's first NBA title.

Following a pregame video tribute, Leonard's former teammates, along with coaches and team executives, gathered in a circle at center court. As the sold-out crowd roared with approval, Leonard embraced each player in turn before guard Kyle Lowry presented him with his ring. After slipping it on, Leonard raised his arms and waved.

"It was great, it was a great moment," Leonard said. "They did a great job putting it together."

LAKERS 96, MAGIC 87:

LeBron James had 25 points, 10 assists and 11 rebounds to help Los Angeles win in Orlando. Anthony Davis had 16 points and 12 rebounds for the Lakers, who have won 13 of 14.

ROCKETS 116, CAVALIERS 110:

James Harden scored 55 points and Russell Westbrook added 23 points as Houston won in Cleveland. The Rockets held on despite a 24-0 second-half run by the Cavs.

BUCKS 127, PELICANS 112:

Giannis Antetokounmpo sat out but Milwaukee kept on rolling, getting 29 points from Eric Bledsoe in a home victory over New Orleans that extended its winning streak to 16 games. Antetokounmpo sat out with a right quad tendon injury, missing his first game this season.

PACERS 122, CELTICS 117:

Malcolm Brogdon scored 29 points and Aaron Holiday scored 11 of his 18 points

in the fourth quarter to help Indiana rally past visiting Boston despite a 44-point night from Celtics guard Kemba Walker.

HORNETS 113, NETS 108:

Devonte' Graham scored a career-high 40 points as Charlotte rallied from a 20-point deficit to beat host Brooklyn.

JAZZ 127, TIMBERWOLVES 116:

Donovan Mitchell had 30 points and six assists and Joe Ingles scored a season-high 23 as Utah handed host Minnesota its sixth straight loss.

BULLS 136, HAWKS 102:

Zach LaVine scored 35 points in three quarters and Lauri Markkanen added 22 as Chicago snapped a three-game losing streak with a home victory over Atlanta.

GRIZZLIES 115, SUNS 106:

Dillon Brooks scored 27 points and Jaren Jackson Jr. added 24 as Memphis won in Phoenix.

AROUND THE NBA

Key trade date comes Sunday

It's probably not on your calendar, but NBA Christmas starts Sunday.

On Dec. 15 every year, players who signed free agent contracts in the past offseason become eligible to be traded. And after all the activity this past summer, that means a huge influx of available players are entering the market Sunday — roughly 150, about one-third of all rostered players in the NBA, per ESPN.

There hasn't been a trade in the league since the mid-July blockbuster sending Russell Westbrook to the Rockets and Chris Paul to the Thunder, but that figures to change with the lifting of the free agent trade moratorium and as teams start to sort themselves out as we approach the one-third mark of the season.

Butler wants more from Heat

MIAMI — Jimmy Butler says he will celebrate success when he sees it. Even at 18-6, he's not sure the Miami Heat are there yet.

After a lopsided loss to the Boston Celtics, an 11-point deficit to the Washington Wizards and the need to go to overtime against the struggling Chicago Bulls and Atlanta Hawks over the past four games, Butler said the Heat stride remains a bit too uneven for his taste.

"It's great whenever the end result is a win," he said, with the Heat taking a three-game winning streak into Friday night's game against the Lakers. "I think everybody knows we can score the ball decently well. Win or lose, I don't think we played our best defensive ball."

BRIEFLY

TRAIL BLAZERS: Guard/forward Rodney Hood underwent successful surgery today to repair his ruptured left Achilles tendon, the team said Wednesday.

— Wire reports

AROUND COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Ewing: Hoyas' roster is full 'for now'



Ewing

WASHINGTON — It was hard not to do a double-take when Georgetown basketball coach Patrick Ewing answered a question Wednesday about whether his full roster will be available for the team's next game by saying, "As of now, yes."

Ewing and the Hoyas are in a bit of an "as of now" world at the moment.

Saturday's game against former Big East rival Syracuse will be Georgetown's first at home since legal matters for three players came to light after the school announced last week that one, leading reserve Josh LeBlanc, would be transferring.

Also leaving, for unspecified reasons, was starting point guard James Akinjo, who was not connected to the cases involving LeBlanc and two players remaining on the team, Myron Gardner and Galen Alexander.

Tennessee vs. Memphis, take 2

Saturday's Tennessee-Memphis game in Knoxville should be fun. It's the second of a three-game series. The first ended with Tennessee's Rick Barnes and Memphis' Penny Hardaway sparring in their respective postgame press conference. The teams play next season in Nashville. After that? "I don't know where it goes from here," Barnes said this week.

Guard wants out of Kansas State



Shaun Williams

Shaun Williams is looking for a new place to call home. The Kansas State sophomore guard entered his name into the NCAA transfer portal. "My recruitment is 100% back open," Williams tweeted.

In his five appearances this season, Williams averaged 9.1 minutes, 3.6 points, 1.2 rebounds and 1.2 assists per game.

— Wire reports

WEDNESDAY'S SCORES

EAST

Colgate 66, Cornell 58
Dartmouth 77, Maine 44
Marshall 86, Bluefield St. 50
Mass.-Lowell 72, NJIT 66
Merrimack 69, Army 60
Rutgers 72, Wisconsin 65
St. Peter's 86, Fairleigh Dickinson 70
Yale 83, UMass 80, OT

SOUTH

Belmont 105, Carson-Newman 56
Furman 90, North Greenville 65
NC Central 109, Christendom 28
Nicholls 118, Carver 44
SC State 90, UNC-Asheville 85, OT
Troy 60, Jacksonville St. 55
VMI 78, Ferrum 60
Virginia Tech 63, Chattanooga 58

MIDWEST

Kansas St. 86, Alabama St. 41
Missouri St. 75, Arkansas St. 53
Illinois 71, Michigan 62

SOUTHWEST

Lamar 73, Southern University at New Orleans 56
Tulsa 69, Boise St. 56
TCU 70, Winthrop 60
Houston 71, Texas-Arlington 63

FAR WEST

Arizona 99, Omaha 49
N. Dakota St. 71, CS Northridge 62
San Diego 66, Cal St.-Fullerton 54
Fresno St. at California, (n)
Prairie View at Arizona St., (n)

Thursday's

Top 25 Schedule

No games scheduled.

STAT OF THE DAY

4 Four Division I men's teams are still looking for their first victory:

Houston Baptist: 0-7

Florida A&M: 0-7

Kennesaw State: 0-8

Central Connecticut: 0-9

—Associated Press

COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Unblemished list whittled to five

Buckeyes top the ranks of the remaining unbeatens

ASSOCIATED PRESS

The ranks of the unbeaten were thinned out even more Tuesday night.

Louisville, Maryland and Butler all lost for the first time, falling to Texas Tech, Penn State and Baylor, respectively. That left just five undefeated teams in all of Division I.

OHIO STATE | 9-0

AP Rank: 3 | Pomeroy Rank: 1

Highlight So Far: Ohio State won 74-49 at North Carolina in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge, handing the Tar Heels their most lopsided home loss under Roy Williams.

Why They're Unbeaten: Kaleb Wesson is a force, averaging 14.1 points and 9.3 rebounds a game, and the Buckeyes are holding opponents to 33.3% shooting.

Upcoming Challenge: Ohio State faces Kentucky on Dec. 21 in Las Vegas.

AUBURN | 8-0

AP Rank: 12 | Pomeroy Rank: 16

Highlight So Far: The Tigers won a pair of games in New York late last month, beating New Mexico 84-59 and Richmond 79-65.

Why They're Unbeaten: The Tigers have picked up where they left off when they made it to last season's Final Four. Senior guard Samir Doughty is the team's leading scorer, and Isaac Okoro and Austin Wiley are shooting high percentages from the field.

Upcoming Challenge: Auburn hasn't had a marquee matchup on its schedule yet, but its Southeastern Conference opener at Mississippi State on Jan. 4 should be a tough one.

SAN DIEGO STATE | 10-0

AP Rank: 25 | Pomeroy Rank: 32

Highlight So Far: The Aztecs beat Creighton by 31 and Iowa by 10 on back-to-back days at an event in Las Vegas.

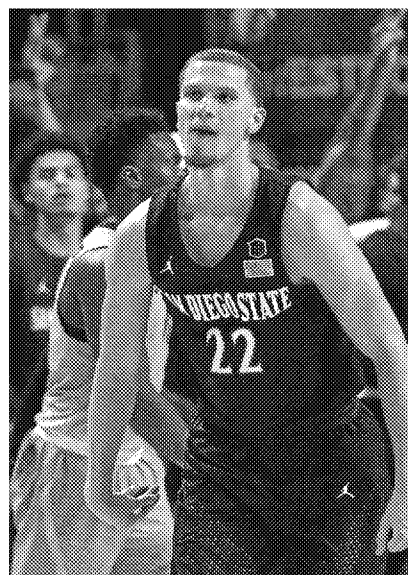
Why They're Unbeaten: Only two of their opponents have reached 70 points. The Aztecs were nearly knocked off by San Jose State this past Sunday, but a last-second 3-pointer by Malachi Flynn gave them a 59-57 win.

Upcoming Challenge: San Diego State already made it through one trip to Utah when it beat BYU on Nov. 9. The Aztecs head back to that state for a Jan. 4 matchup with Utah State.



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Ohio State forward Kaleb Wesson works against North Carolina's Garrison Brooks during last week's 74-49 blowout of the Tar Heels in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge.



San Diego State guard Malachi Flynn reacts after sinking a 3-pointer in a victory over Iowa last month in Las Vegas.

DUQUESNE | 8-0

AP: Unranked | Pomeroy Rank: 68

Highlight So Far: The Dukes haven't been tested much, but they went to the Bahamas last month and beat Indiana State, Air Force and Loyola Marymount.

Why They're Unbeaten: The Dukes have six players averaging between 8.9 and 12.3 points per game, and center Michael Hughes already has 24 blocked shots.

Upcoming Challenge: Duquesne begins

a stretch of four straight neutral-site games with an interesting matchup with Radford on Saturday.

LIBERTY | 11-0

AP: Unranked | Pomeroy Rank: 71

Highlight So Far: The Flames beat Radford 66-60 in their season opener.

Why They're Unbeaten: The Flames won an NCAA Tournament game last season, so this early success should be no surprise. They're outscoring opponents by an average of 13.1 points a game from 3-point range while shooting 42.1% from beyond the arc.

Upcoming Challenge: Liberty hasn't played a very tough schedule so far, but the Flames go on the road to face Vanderbilt on Dec. 14 and LSU on Dec. 29.

Wednesday's Top 25

ILLINOIS 71, NO. 5 MICHIGAN 62: Freshman center Kofi Cockburn had 19 points, 10 rebounds and four blocks as the host Illini (7-3) earned their first win over a top-five program since 2013.

Wolverines guard Xavier Simpson was limited to 4-of-14 shooting for nine points, often meeting a swat by Cockburn at the rim.

NO. 15 ARIZONA 99, OMAHA 49: Chase Jeter and Josh Green each scored 15 points as the host Wildcats (10-1) dominated the Mavericks (5-7) in Tucson. Freshman Nico Mannion added 13 points and 11 assists.

ON THE TEE

YOUR GUIDE TO THE WEEK IN PROFESSIONAL GOLF



ANDY BROWNBILL, ASSOCIATED PRESS

Patrick Reed hits out of a bunker Tuesday during a practice session ahead of the President's Cup in Melbourne.

Reed's recent actions draw plenty of criticism

DOUG FERGUSON | Associated Press

This might be the end of that Captain America business. If it wasn't his finger-pointing interview after the Ryder Cup in France, a few swipes of sand in the Bahamas should make it a little more clear. Patrick Reed is not doing or saying the things that should make American golf want to rally around him.

Not that Reed cares what anyone thinks.

All he wants to do is play and win, and those qualities endear him to the old-school crowd that believes golf is getting too chummy and less cut throat. Reed is the kind of player who wants the ball for the final shot. The other Americans on this Presidents Cup team like that about him.

His post-match rant at the Ryder Cup was troublesome because he was quick to assign fault with the U.S. captain Jim Furyk for sitting him and Jordan Spieth for breaking up their partnership, without recognizing he couldn't find the fairway at Le Golf National during a fourballs match with Tiger Woods.

More difficult were his actions — then his curious explanation — at the Hero World Challenge in the Bahamas.

Video clearly showed his ball in a rumpled foot print in a sandy waste area left of the 11th fairway during the third round. Reed set his club behind the ball, drew it back and scraped back some of the sand behind his ball. Then he did it again, swiping away more sand.

It looked bad.

"If that's not improving your lie, I don't know what is," NBC analyst Paul Azinger said when it was shown on replay. "He knows better. I don't know why that happened or what he was thinking."

More telling was Rickie Fowler, who walked out of the scoring area toward a group of reporters and

looked up at the television when it was being shown again.

His eyes widened.

"Whoa," Fowler said. "What is that?"

It's improving the line of play, and it comes with a two-shot penalty, which Reed was given and accepted.

Whether he intended to improve his line is not relevant as it relates to the rule.

Intent is relevant as it relates to his integrity, and only Reed can speak to that.

He says he did not cheat, a dirty word in golf that was brought up twice during his interview Tuesday.

"If you're intentionally trying to do something, that would be considered cheating," he said. "But I wasn't intentionally trying to improve a lie or anything like that. Because if it was, it would have been a really good lie and I would have hit it really close."

The outrage was predictable on social media because social media thrives on outrage, especially for someone who rubs people the wrong way.

But this raised questions.

Reed told reporters in the Bahamas that while he accepted the penalty — how could he not when presented with video evidence like that? — a different camera angle would have indicated that his club wasn't as close to the ball as it looked. He held his hands about 8 inches apart to illustrate. No one was buying.

"When I take my practice swings, anyways, I don't ever put the club directly behind the ball because I'm always scared of the ball moving," Reed said. "I'm always going to give myself some room, especially on practice swings."

It's a classic case of he said, they said.

In this case, "they" stretched all the way down to the Australian Open.

Marc Leishman, the leading

qualifier for the International team at the Presidents Cup, said he saw it and "it didn't look too good for him."

Cameron Smith was more blunt the following day.

"If you make a mistake maybe once, you could maybe understand, but to give a bit of a (expletive) response like the camera angle," Smith said. "I know Pat pretty good and he's always been nice to me, so I don't want to say anything bad about him. But anyone's cheating the rules, I'm not up for that."

So much for not saying anything bad about him.

U.S. captain Tiger Woods didn't sound overly concerned when he finished up in the Bahamas, and he switched into Bill Belichick mode in Melbourne, twice saying effectively, "We're on to the Presidents Cup."

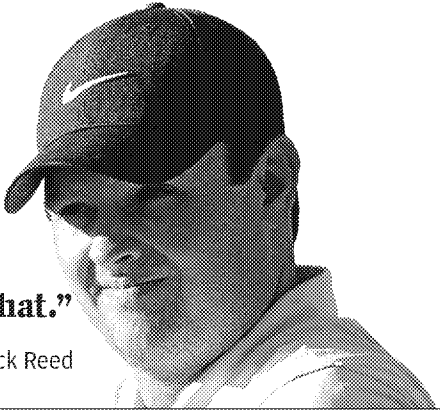
The real measure is what happens when golf returns to the individual game that it is for all but one week of the year.

This isn't the first time Reed has been under scrutiny.

There were allegations in the book, "Slaying the Tiger: A year inside the ropes on the new PGA Tour," of Reed cheating during college qualifying while at Georgia. Reed denied them.

Video emerged over the weekend from another incident of Reed placing the club directly behind the ball in a waste area in 2015 in the Bahamas. There was Bay Hill in 2018 when he tried to get relief from a palmetto bush, and after being denied twice, said, "I guess my name needs to be Jordan Spieth."

Such history doesn't make this harder to forgive as much as it makes it harder to forget.



— Patrick Reed

"If you're intentionally trying to do something, that would be considered cheating. But I wasn't intentionally trying to improve a lie or anything like that."

Els uses logo to help build unity

DOUG FERGUSON | Associated Press

Captains for the Presidents Cup usually get the most attention for the wild-card picks that fill out their teams and the pairings they create. Ernie Els might have done his best work long before that point.

The Presidents Cup is a PGA Tour creation, and so it was the PGA Tour that created a flag for an International team representing countries from everywhere but Europe. It had wavy blue and gold lines. What it lacked was history and a sense of identity.

Els changed all that.

The International team now has its own logo, which is more of a shield. The identity comes from each player having the flag from his own country in the middle of the shield — nine

flags for this team, the most ever in 25 years.

"We've always played under the flag, but we've never really had our own identity, so to speak," Els said. "Guys like that. ... I explained to them exactly what it entails, what's behind the whole thinking of how we brought the whole thing together."

Els said he first unveiled the new look to players at the 2018 U.S. Open at Shinnecock and received favorable reviews.

The flag is a nice touch. The Solheim Cup on the LPGA Tour once put the flag of players' home state on the golf bags. What makes this logo more meaningful is the shield in the background.

Abraham Ancer of Mexico said it

was inspired by three patterns. The first one is the Celtic knot, which stands for unity (or friendship), loyalty and faith. The second is a coat of arms to represent strength. The last one is a pair of flag sticks in opposite directions to bring golf into the equation.

"It's brilliant," said Louis Oosthuizen, who played three Presidents Cup matches under the old flag. "Ernie has been on this for a while. We need to get that identity of what we are and what we playing for and who we are as a team. To do something like that and have that emblem, it's really made a big difference in our team."

Whether it helps them make putts and win points is to be determined this week at Royal Melbourne.

THIS WEEK

PGA TOUR

PRESIDENTS CUP

Royal Melbourne GC in Melbourne, Australia

Yardage: 7,055; **Par:** 71

Purse: None

Television: Wednesday, 3:30 to 10 p.m. (Golf Channel); Thursday, 5 to 10 p.m. (Golf Channel); Friday, 1 p.m. to midnight (Golf Channel); Saturday, 4 to 10 p.m. (Golf Channel)

Defending champion: United States

Series: United States leads, 10-1-1

What to know: **Tiger Woods** is the first playing captain in the Presidents Cup since the inaugural matches in 1994, and he is the first captain to pick himself for the team.

Ernie Els is captain of the International team. This is the third time for the Presidents Cup to be played at Royal Melbourne. The International team won for the only time in 1998. The Americans won with Woods delivering the clinching point in 2011. The International team has a record-tying seven rookies, and the team is represented by a record nine countries. **Gary Woodland**, **Patrick Cantlay** and **Xander Schauffele** are playing in a Presidents Cup or Ryder Cup for the first time. The average world ranking of the American team is 12.3, the best for these matches. The highest-ranked International player is **Adam Scott** at No. 18. **Dustin Johnson** is playing for the first time since the Tour Championship because of arthroscopic knee surgery.

LPGA TOUR

QBE SHOOTOUT

Tiburon GC in Naples, Florida

Yardage: 7,382; **Par:** 72

Purse: \$3.5 million; **Winner's share:** \$435,000 per player

Television: Friday-Sunday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Golf Channel)

Defending champions: Brian Harman and Patton Kizzire

What to know: The field is composed of 12 two-player teams, with 14 players coming from the FedEx Cup standings and 10 sponsor exemptions. **Lexi Thompson** returns to play with **Sean O'Hair**. PGA Tour rookies and former Oklahoma State teammates **Matthew Wolff** and **Viktor Hovland** are playing together. Thompson was at Tiburon three weeks ago for the CME Group Tour Championship on the LPGA Tour. She won at Tiburon in 2018. **Greg Norman** started the tournament in 1989 when it was known as the "Shark Shootout" and became a popular part of the silly season. It began at Sherwood Country Club in California, was held one year at Doral on Norman's White Course and moved to the Norman-designed course at Tiburon in 2001. Only six players in the field have won on the PGA Tour this year. That includes **Brendon Todd**, who won two in a row in the fall. He is playing with **Billy Horschel**. **Bubba Watson**, **Kevin Kisner** and **Chez Reavie** were in the field at the Hero World Challenge last week in the Bahamas.

CHIP SHOTS

DeChambeau bulks up

Bryson DeChambeau promised a new physique during his two months off, and that's what he brought to the Bahamas and Australia.

The objective was to get bigger and stronger by pushing himself in the gym. DeChambeau didn't say how much he gained, but he was noticeably bigger and set himself up for some expected ribbing from the U.S. team.

"I call him 'Skinny.' He'll get a chuckle out of it, but he's a big dude," Xander Schauffele said. "I don't even know what size he is. I think LaCoste had to customize a shirt for him. It might be a double-XL, triple-XL, I have no clue. He's quite a specimen right now."

DeChambeau struggled in his return at the Hero World Challenge, finishing 15 shots behind in 15th place out of 18.

"I'm getting comfortable with it really quickly," he said Tuesday. "Today was the first day where I felt like, 'Wow, I'm OK. I'm back to where I was a year-and-a-half ago in regards to ball-striking. ... I stopped doing it because of injury, so let's try and get back to that — stronger, bigger — so I could tolerate more."

"I did it today for the first time and in this wind, I had incredible control of my golf ball off the tee."

DeChambeau has not won since Las Vegas a year ago.

BRIEFLY

A less-than-tasty treat: The PGA Tour's digital team decided to bring a taste of Australia to the American players who had interview sessions Tuesday. They carried a tray of Vegemite on small pieces of toast.

Most tried it. Not everyone liked it, including Hideki Matsuyama. Webb Simpson was more diplomatic, saying, "There's nothing I can compare that to."

Patrick Cantlay didn't get the opportunity. He was talking about the nuances of Royal Melbourne when he saw the plate out of the corner of his eye. Cantlay kept talking. And talking. The person holding the tray moved on to another player before long.

Big money: By winning the season-ending event, Ryo Ishikawa became the 14th player to surpass 1 billion yen for career earnings on the Japan Golf Tour. That converts to \$9.32 million, about \$300,000 short of what Brooks Koepka earned this year.

Mixing it up: Golf gets another mixed team for the second straight week. Annika Sorenstam played with her father in the PNC Father-Son Challenge last week. Lexi Thompson is playing with Sean O'Hair in the QBE Shootout this week.

Rankings advantage: The average world ranking of the U.S. team at the Presidents Cup is 12.3, the best ever for these matches that date to 1994. Adam Scott is the highest-ranked player from the International team at No. 18.

— Associated Press

NUMBER OF THE WEEK

1 All but one of the 24 players at the Presidents Cup — Tiger Woods — had not turned pro when the International team won in 1998 at Royal Melbourne.

FINAL WORD

"I think we're almost at that point."

— **Louis Oosthuizen**, when asked if the International team has to win the Presidents Cup to keep fans from losing interest.

